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BIRTHS.

On the 17th November, at Tor Crest Peak, the wife of A. G. GORDON, of a daughter.
On the 18th November, 1899, at Uli Uli, Manila, P.T., the wife of H. D. C. JONES, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, of a son.
On the 22nd November, at the Peak, the wife of J. M. BEATTIE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At the British Consulate, Tientsin, and afterwards at the London Mission Chinese Chapel on Thursday, November 9th, 1899, GEORGE PURVIS SMITH, M.B., C.M. EDIN., to ALICE MARY, daughter of WILLIAM EAM, Esq., "Ewhurst," Hastings, England.
At the British Consulate and afterwards at the St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, CHARLES PARSONS, of South Lambeth, London, to ALICE, youngest daughter of the late HENRY MCLEERY BLOW, Tientsin.

DEATHS.

On the 9th November, at Yokohama, JOSEFINA, the wife of G. M. DOS REMEDIOS.
At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 11th November, 1899, BESSIE ANDERSON, the dearly beloved wife of William THOMSON, aged 43 years.
At 26, Broadway, Shanghai, on the 15th November, HARRY CRANMER MANNING, aged 41 years.
At 6, Seward Road, Shanghai, on the 16th November, 1899, THOMAS DRIGHTON, aged 57 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 20th October arrived, per M. M. steamer *Oceanien*, on 21st November (32 days); the American mail of the 24th October arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 22nd November (28 days); and the English mail of the 27th October arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, on the 24th November (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The *Lochow*, the first steamer direct from Chungking to Shanghai, arrived at the latter port on the 15th inst.

A few cases of plague have occurred at Kobe.

The King of Luang-Prabang has been on a visit to Saigon to pay his homage to the Governor-General of Indo-China, to whom he made presents of flowers of gold and silver.

The *Echo de Chine* announces the outbreak of a revolution in Kansu. A Protestant missionary and a mandarin have been massacred by the Mahomedans. The Shensi banks have been ordered not to negotiate any bills on Kansu.

We (*Chius Gazette*) learn upon the best authority that the report of Mr. Yano's appointment as Adviser to the Tsung-li Yamen had no foundation in fact, though it may have formed the subject for inconsequential discussion at times.

The Japanese seem to be directing their attention to the Yangtze, judging by the number of their prominent men in the political world who have lately visited the provincial capital and interviewed the Viceroy. Now we learn that Mr. Kato, the Minister to the Court of St. James, who had just returned from Peking, left Shanghai on 14th November for Hankow.—*Mercury*.

The Straits Government has received the following telegram from the Government of Western Australia:—"Brigantine *Ethal* left Broome October 19th for Lagrang Bay to the North-west of Western Australia, has not arrived. When last seen October 30th steering northerly direction past Lacepede Islands. Fear that Asiatic crew mutinied, murdered Ridell, Master of ship, son and carpenter and stolen vessel. Shall esteem assistance from H.M. Government in seizing vessel."

H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia accompanied H.E. the Governor and Lady Blake, Miss Blake, and Mr. M. Blake on a trip up the West River as far as Wuchow last week. The party left Hongkong on Friday evening 17th November, arriving at Wuchow on Sunday morning. They left again on Monday afternoon, and on Tuesday Prince Henry separated from the party, going in H.M.S. *Sandpiper* to visit the city of Canton. H.E. the Governor arrived back in Hongkong Wednesday.

The *Morning Post* of the 7th October, in an article describing the preparations for the decoration of the Nelson column on the Trafalgar anniversary, says a feature of the gifts from the branches of the Navy League "will be a model ship made entirely of flowers from the Hongkong branch. The model will represent the gunboat *Sandpiper* which is now patrolling the West River, China where a great deal of piracy exists, and the object of the senders is twofold, viz., to honour Nelson and to draw attention to the necessity for more gunboats to protect our commerce on the West River."

At the recent conference of English and American bishops held in Shanghai, it was unanimously decided that it would not be advisable for the bishops of the Anglican Communion either to ask for, or to accept, a political status in China such as that which has recently been conferred by Imperial edict on Roman Catholic bishops. There were present at this conference Bishop Moule of the Mid China diocese, Bishop Graves of Shanghai, Bishop Scott of North China, Bishop Corfe of Korea, Bishop Camels of Western China, and Bishop Hoare of Victoria, Hongkong.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Captain Hiraoka, who has been ordered by the Japanese General Army Staff-Department to proceed to South Africa to witness the war operations there, and who is a passenger, by the *Yakohama-maru*, will be attached, it is stated, to the Boer army. Colonel Ijichi, the military attaché in the Japanese Legation in London, has also been ordered to South Africa, and will accompany the British forces. A wire has been received announcing Colonel Ijichi's departure for the scene of operations.

The *London Gazette* of 17th October contains the following Order in Council relating to the abolition of Consular jurisdiction in Japan:—"As regards all such matters and cases as come within the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts, the operation of the Orders in Council regulating Her Majesty's Consular jurisdiction in the Empire of Japan shall cease to be in force and operation within the said Empire as from the 4th day of August, 1899, except as regards any judicial matters pending in any of Her Majesty's Consular Courts in Japan on the day above mentioned."

News has been received through Chinese sources of various conflicts between the French and the Natives at Kwangchauwan, in which the advantage is said to have rested with the Natives, but the details are of doubtful authenticity. The French, are said to have detained Marshal Su as a hostage or prisoner and to have captured several Chinese gunboats. We learn by telegram, however, that the difficulty has now been adjusted and that the boundary proposed by the French, which includes two islands at the mouth of the bay, has been accepted by the Chinese. According to the French, the reports of hostile encounters have been ridiculously exaggerated.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—"Mr. Bax-Ironside, the present *Charged'Affaires* and First Secretary of Legation in Peking, goes home on leave immediately after the arrival of Sir Claude MacDonald. It is understood that Mr. Bax-Ironside will not return to China. His memory will long be verdant among our sportsmen and whist players. He has ever been the strenuous supporter of cricket, and indeed was the originator of the Peking-Tientsin matches; he has also been a consistent supporter of tennis and football for the young bloods in the Consular Nursery. Mr. Bax-Ironside was the pioneer of Bridge Whist in both communities. His ability, unfailing courtesy, and consideration have ensured him many admirers in North China, who will watch his future career with great interest."

Kang Yi, the Empress Dowager's High Commissioner to collect funds, arrived at Shanghai from Canton in the China Merchants' steamer *Kwangles* on the 12th instant and left again rather hurriedly on the 16th for Peking. His hurried departure is said to have been due to the receipt of a wire from his friends in Peking giving the news that both Jung Lu and Prince Ching were working again at preventing him from returning to Peking. This decided him to take the first steamer leaving for Tientsin. So anxious was Kang Yi to get to Tientsin without being turned off midway by a telegram ordering him to proceed to Szechuan, as was the intention of Jung Lu and Prince Ch'ing, that he desired the *Huiyu* to proceed straight up to Tangku without calling at Chafoo.

THE CONTROL OF TELEGRAPHS IN TIME OF WAR.

LORD SALISBURY in his recent Guildhall speech scouted the idea of foreign complications. According to the version published in a Japan contemporary "the tendency of the speech was cheerful with regard to the country's international relations (with European Powers). He declared that foreign interference in Africa (on the Transvaal issue) was neither expected nor would it be tolerated." That such interference would not be tolerated goes without saying. Whether it is expected or not is another question. The fact that foreign Government messages for South and East Africa and the adjacent islands will no longer be accepted unless they are written in plain language and that they are subjected to a British censorate seems to indicate that the contingency of foreign interference is considered sufficiently near to justify unusual precautions. The effect of the order is that foreign Powers who happen to have men-of-war or territorial possessions in the regions affected by the order will be unable to communicate with them without the complete cognisance of the British Government. The order is issued under the provisions of the International Telegraph Convention and therefore no Power can have any legal ground of objection. It is not to be expected, however, that the order will, in certain quarters, be regarded without irritation and resentment. The Powers primarily affected are Germany, Portugal, and France, all of whom have colonies in South or East Africa or near thereto. With Germany and Portugal Great Britain is understood to have a perfect agreement, and it may be assured that neither of those Powers will make any outcry in the matter. From France, however, we may expect to hear a storm of indignation and passionate complaint. Our neighbours will be unable to communicate with their colony of Madagascar or their men-of-war on that station without their messages passing through the hands of British officials in plain language, and the messages may be rejected altogether if they are considered inimical to British interests. The circumstance brings into relief the important part that telegraphic cables must play in modern warfare, provided they can be kept in working order. Seeing, however, the material advantages that the cables would give to the party controlling them, it is to be presumed that the enemy would make every possible effort to cut them. One of the first duties of the British fleet in time of war, therefore, would be to protect the cables. As the duplication of routes diminishes the chances of interruption we in Hongkong may congratulate ourselves that a cable between this colony and Singapore via Labuan was laid some years ago and that we are not now solely dependent upon the line via Saigon. The strategical advantages of the Labuan line may possibly receive a practical exemplification ere long, for unfortunately the attitude of France towards Great Britain is the reverse of friendly. Should a diplomatic rupture occur it will be reassuring to know that we in the Far East are not solely dependent for our telegraphic communication upon a line touching at the French colony of Saigon. War between France and Great Britain would be most lamentable, and we may rest assured that our Government to avoid it would make every sacrifice consistent with honour and self-respect. France, however, appears unable to break loose from her unhappy policy of pinpricks. The resolution of the Paris Municipal Council expressing regret

that the European Powers did not espouse the cause of the Transvaal could only have been intended as a deliberate insult to Great Britain. Coming nearer home, it is to be feared that the French aggression at Kwangchauwan is only part of a design for securing control of Kwangtung with a view to hampering the development of British trade. Our Government, however, are acting on the sound principle *si vis pacem para bellum*, and it is to be hoped that this may prevent our little affair with the Transvaal being taken advantage of by any other Power to strike a blow at British influence either in China or elsewhere.

THE FRENCH AT KWANG-CHAUWAN.

(Daily Press, 18th November.)

The position at Kwangchauwan has a decidedly unpleasant appearance. It may be remembered that some three weeks ago we published a translation from the *Courrier d'Haiphong* of an article giving an account of an engagement between Chinese and French troops in which the former were defeated and had about a hundred killed. In that account it was stated that a French detachment of seventy-five men was sent from Hoiteou fort to make a reconnaissance at some distance, and on the way met several bands of Chinese armed with rifles. On the return march it was found that these bands had united, and they opened fire on the French. Another company of French troops was sent out to support the reconnoitring force, and the result of the skirmish was that the Chinese were put to flight with heavy loss, the French loss being only three wounded. This occurred two days before the arrival of Marshal Su, the Chinese delimitation commissioner. Immediately upon news of the affair reaching Canton a couple of thousand Chinese troops were sent to the scene. In reporting the despatch of that force we remarked that whether the troops were sent merely to preserve order amongst the Chinese and prevent opposition to the delimitation arrangements or with the more sinister view of giving the French trouble did not appear. Whatever the object, the actual effect has been unfortunate, for we now learn from the *Chung Ngai San Po* that news has been received at Canton of another conflict, in which the French are said to have been routed and to have lost about thirty men. The Chinese are referred to as natives of the district, but if there be any truth as to the heavy French loss it must be assumed that trained soldiers were engaged. The report may prove to have been exaggerated, as Chinese reports so frequently do, but there is nothing impossible nor even improbable in it. The French, apart from the Navy, have, we believe, only a few hundred soldiers at Kwangchauwan, and the Chinese troops, numbering several thousands, armed with modern weapons, might easily cut up a company or two of the French troops while out on a march. Reinforcements for the French are now being hurried up from Tonkin, and although the reason for this is given merely as the result of the breaking off of diplomatic negotiations there may be the further reason that the French position is actually endangered. At the same time that the French are sending reinforcements the Viceroy of Canton is also sending down another thousand men.

News from Kwangchauwan, it may be remarked, takes some few days to reach the outer world, and when full details are received it may be found that the latest conflict has been even more serious

than is at present supposed. In our London telegram published yesterday it was stated that two French officers had been killed in Hainan and the Prefect seized. This news most likely reached London via Paris, and it is possible that in the frequent transmissions of the telegram the name of the place may have been changed. No direct news has been received locally, so far as we can ascertain, of any such occurrence in Hainan, and it seems not improbable that the message really relates to Kwangchauwan, that the French losses include two officers killed, and that the French have seized the Chinese official in charge. MARSHAL SU, as appears from a translation given in another column from the *Courrier d'Haiphong*, has been deprived of the powers which had originally been conferred upon him and is no longer the responsible representative of China in the matter of the delimitation. This is confirmed by the statement of the *Chung Ngai San Po* that the Viceroy has wired to the Taungli Yamen asking what steps he is to take, as he is quite unable to satisfy the French in the matter of the delimitation. Some days ago we heard that the local official had been sending urgent messages to the Viceroy for instructions in the matter, and the Viceroy is now apparently passing the messages on to the Tsungli Yamen. Before MARSHAL SU came down from the North it was reported that his instructions were to resist French encroachments even at the risk of war, and the subsequent course of events leads to the conclusion that China is not disposed to yield more than she thinks is due, and perhaps even less. If either Power wants a *casus belli* it will have no difficulty in finding it now at Kwangchauwan. Knowing the duplicity with which the Viceroy of Canton acted in the matter of our own extension it would not be at all surprising to learn that the trouble at Kwangchauwan was principally of his making. On the other hand there is good reason to suppose that France would not be disinclined to seize upon any pretext for making encroachments upon the Kwangtung province. Something of that kind may be the particular chestnut that she hopes to draw out of the Transvaal fire.

KWANG-CHAUWAN AND SHAM-CHUN: A CONTRAST.

(Daily Press, 24th November.)

The statement made through Reuters Agency, to the effect that the difficulty between France and China has been settled by the cession to the former of two islands on the coast in the Bay of Kwangchau, is interesting—and instructive. What these islands may be, and what use France expects to make of them, must for the present remain matters of conjecture. Whether they are valuable or not, the chief point to be noted is that France gets her demand, while we forgo ours, even for the valueless city of Shamchun, not to speak of the important hill frontier, which latter would have saved a harvest of future disputes and troubles sure to arise from leaving a new Alsatia to grow up on the opposite side of the little river which at present constitutes the boundary line in the north-west of the Territory. The French Minister will be able to congratulate himself on having scored again, while we have to lament a weakness on the part of our Foreign Office which will assuredly produce trouble hereafter. The loss of prestige involved in having to retire from a position we had taken up is also to be deplored. It is idle to contend that there has been no loss of

prestige; that the purpose for which we occupied Shamohun has been fulfilled, and that that is the reason for our evacuation. The city was perhaps occupied merely to impress the Chinese that the people of that district were not in future to be allowed to raid the New Territory, and also as an intimation that some satisfaction was needed for the hostilities set on foot through the instrumentality of the officials and gentry of Sun On. But whatever may have been the intention of the British Government, after the occupation had been resolved upon the Chinese of Sun On will unquestionably regard the withdrawal of the military force from Shamohun as the result of pressure from the Chinese Government, and the news that the British troops were compelled to leave that city will be spread far and near in Kwangtung. This, unfortunately, is in the same province where the French have just wrung from reluctant China a fresh concession supplementary to that of Kwangchowwan, and the comparison will not, we fear, be to our advantage in Chinese eyes. The Chinese do not understand the generosity that concedes to weakness what it would not yield to brute strength. They appreciate the argument of force when they are wholly deaf to the appeal to reason, justice, or common-sense. In dealing with Peking this has always to be borne in mind, but notwithstanding all our long experience, it is seldom sufficiently considered. In this case we had an exceptionally strong position. We had made a treaty, agreed on a boundary, went to take over the leased territory, and met with a hostile reception due to the false statements spread among the inhabitants by the officials and gentry of the district, who also contributed men and arms to oppose the occupation. This act of hostility so easily set on foot amply proved the advisability of setting back the frontier to the range of hills beyond, which forms a natural boundary, more readily defensible, and leaving no considerable centre of population in close proximity thereto.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

On Wednesday afternoon a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held for the purpose of considering the estimates for the year 1900. The Colonial Secretary (the Hon. J. H. Stewart Leckhart) presided, and there were also present.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITTHREAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WAI A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KAWICK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Council).

The CHAIRMAN—An honourable member is aware, the object of this meeting of the Finance Committee is to consider the items in the Estimates under the head "Public Works Extraordinary." At the last meeting but one of the Finance Committee at the request of the honourable unofficial members the consideration of these items was postponed.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Mr. Chairman, before we proceed with these items in relation I

may mention that the unofficial members have given this matter their utmost care and attention and have come to the conclusion that a memorandum from them to the Council would be the right thing to do. This memorandum I have here now, and having submitted it to you and obtained your permission I will now place it upon the table. I may also mention, Mr. Chairman, that it is signed by all the unofficial members with the exception of the honourable member who represents the Chamber of Commerce. He will no doubt in due course explain to you the reason why he has not signed it.

The memorandum in question reads as follows:—

"Memorandum by the undersigned unofficial Members of the Legislative Council of Hongkong, regarding the Estimates for Public Works Extraordinary of 1900.

"1.—We have carefully studied the estimates for the coming year in the light of His Excellency the Governor's speech at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th October last, and it is with great satisfaction we observe that, notwithstanding the large expenditure which has already been incurred in connection with the taking over of the New Territory, there will still remain a balance of revenue over expenditure of no less than \$400,000 (including last year's balance) at the end of the current year.

"2.—When this is taken in conjunction with the fact that within the past five years the resumption of Taipingshan has been carried out at a cost of over \$850,000, defrayed entirely out of reserve, and of which but a fractional part has as yet been returned to the Treasury, the result is still more satisfactory.

"3.—Fortunately, the sales of land have been large, and have in a great measure enabled this surplus to be attained, and we desire to impress upon His Excellency the necessity for expending during the coming year this surplus upon current and important Public Works within the limits of the colony exclusive of the New Territory.

"4.—Whilst we are ready to concede that certain of the contemplated works in the New Territory may be defrayed out of the general revenue, we are most decidedly of opinion that the principal works for developing it should be provided for by a Loan.

"The public works in this island have been long deferred for want of funds, and now that they are available for proceeding with the most important of these works we feel bound to deprecate, in the strongest manner, any proposal to divert such funds to any other purpose whatever.

"5.—In his speech His Excellency alluded to the works which had been approved by the Public Works Committee as among those to be undertaken next year and paid for out of the surplus. A reference to the list of these works shows that the three most important are connected with extensions of the Waterworks.

"6.—The necessity for undertaking these works immediately has been demonstrated by the repeated introduction, year after year, of the intermittent supply, which occurs just at the period when an abundant supply is most urgently needed, namely, when plague begins to make its appearance. Though extensions have recently been carried out, experience has shown them to be insufficient, and a reference to the statements published monthly in the newspapers shows that the consumption is ever on the increase. From the latest return, this increase amounts to 8 per cent. over the corresponding period of last year, and no time should therefore be lost in carrying out further extensions.

"7.—The construction of roads is also a matter of great importance. The rapidity with which sites have been taken up along the roads recently constructed is the best proof not only of the necessity but of the sound policy from a financial standpoint of proceeding with the roads projected.

"In connection with this subject it may be worth considering whether the Government should not give the utmost encouragement to any scheme for connecting the centre of Victoria with the eastern or western suburbs by tramways in order the better to provide for the expansion of the city and the provision of house accommodation.

"8.—The importance of housing the Police Force suitably is one that should not be overlooked, and the provision of quarters for the married members of the force should be made as soon as practicable. Meantime we welcome the proposal to erect a Police Station for the Western District, which has long been greatly needed.

"9.—Another work of the most urgent importance for the well-being of the colony is the provision of adequate latrine accommodation throughout the city, which we regard as one of the measures to be adopted for combating plague. We are of opinion that at least six latrines should be proceeded with at once, two of which should be for women. There can be no doubt that such provision will tend to make the houses of the poor more wholesome, and will thus have a salutary effect on the health of the community generally.

"10.—Two minor works which we desire to see carried out without delay are the completion of the improvements of the Recreation Ground at Happy Valley, and the provision of a proper chair shelter at the Peak.

"11.—As regards the former, a considerable area of land has been sold in recent years in the immediate neighbourhood, on which houses have been built, and the improvements referred to will, it is hoped, tend to overcome the malaria for which this district has had a bad reputation in the past, besides rendering the ground available for purposes of recreation.

"12.—The chair shelter may be said to be a necessity from a humanitarian point of view. In the city, coolies can generally find refuge from sun or rain beneath the numerous verandahs and trees, and at Kowloon a shelter has been in existence for some years; but at the Peak, where the effects of the weather are much more severely felt than elsewhere, there is absolutely no protection whatever except what is provided by the present open market.

"13.—The desirability of at once proceeding with the construction of the new Law Courts has been alluded to in His Excellency's speech. Seeing that this work will take several years to complete, it cannot be too strongly urged that the work should be put in hand immediately.

"The projected new Post Office is even more urgently needed. We are of opinion that this work should on no account be delayed until the completion of the new Law Courts, but that its construction should be commenced at the same time if possible.

"14.—We are pleased to note that there is a likelihood of the Jubilee Road being proceeded with ere long—a work which we regard as of considerable importance in providing an outlet for the ever growing population.

"15.—With these large and important Public Works in prospect, irrespective of those required in the New Territory, we view with concern His Excellency's remarks regarding the staff of the Public Works Department. It is stated in His Excellency's speech that the Estimates provide \$96,000 more than was expended by the Department on Extraordinary Public Works in 1898, but these Estimates provide only a moiety of the sums which we consider should be expended to enable the works referred to being carried out with despatch, whilst some of them are totally unprovided for.

"16.—In view of this we are surprised to find that notwithstanding the great amount of additional work which must be entailed on this Department by the New Territory, the Public Works Estimates actually show a diminished expenditure as compared with 1899. We are still further surprised to find that the contemplated reduction is in the Engineering Staff, which is surely rather in need of augmentation on His Excellency's own showing.

"17.—When we consider that in 1899 a sum of \$94,420 was voted for this Department as compared with \$91,402 in the Estimates under consideration, we are still further convinced of the inadequacy of the present staff.

"18.—That this Department, with which the vital interests of the colony as regards sanitation, water supply, and development generally are so inseparably bound up, should undergo reduction at such a time, we consider a serious matter, and we earnestly urge upon His Excellency to take immediate steps to put the Department on a footing commensurate with its extended duties.

"19.—We would suggest to His Excellency the desirability of appointing a Committee to investigate and report on the question of the staff of the Public Works Department, and we make this proposal because, as we have already stated, the policy hitherto has been to starve our Public Works, and we recognize the importance of providing a staff sufficient to carry on the large works now impending."

The CHAIRMAN—Does the honourable member who has not signed the memorandum wish to make any explanation?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I prefer to leave my remarks until later on.

The CHAIRMAN—With regard to this memorandum, which the senior unofficial member allowed me to see before this meeting, I will lay it before His Excellency the Governor, who will no doubt deal with it at the meeting of the Council to be held to-morrow.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—It was the intention of the honourable members that a copy of the memorandum should be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The CHAIRMAN—I think there can be no doubt whatever that His Excellency will forward a copy to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. As I have said, I will lay it before His Excellency, who will no doubt deal with it to-morrow, when the estimates will be finally considered. I propose, if honourable members are agreeable, that we now proceed with the various items.

THE HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD PROPOSES AN AMENDMENT.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I beg to move that the vote in the 1900 Estimates for "Public Works Extraordinary" be referred back to the Departments concerned for reconsideration and to be remodelled. The Treasurer's Financial Returns in their amended form which accompanied the draft Estimates are unintelligible and cannot be correct. The final settlement of the Appropriation Bill should be postponed until these accounts are cleared up. The assets available for Public Works Extraordinary in 1900 are much larger than the amount in the Estimates proposed to be expended. I respectfully submit that the money proposed to be voted is not properly applied, as there are many very urgent and most important works omitted but which demand immediate attention and should be specially provided for. The actual assets available at the end of 1900 is the estimated surplus on 31st proximo—say \$400,000, plus the estimated surplus revenue over the ordinary expenditure during next year—say \$436,000, or an aggregate of \$836,000. According to the Estimates there is only to be expended during 1900 the sum of \$331,100, on Public Works Extraordinary. I think the Government would have been fully justified in asking the Council to sanction the expenditure of say 5 or even \$600,000. The Public Works are, in order of their importance and urgency, latrines, shelter for chair-coolies at the Peak, the speedy extension of our means of obtaining, storing and distributing water, a Post Office, &c. More public latrines and the extension of water supply are absolutely necessary for the welfare of the community. Yet on latrines it is proposed to spend only \$5,000; only \$15,000 for increasing the water supply; nothing at all on the chair-coolie shelter at the Peak, and nothing on a New Post Office. The latrines should be put in hand and finished before the end of next year. I earnestly urge that a vote be taken for the full amount requisite to complete them during 1900. I regret to note the reduction in the staff of the Public Works Department. It should be increased and not reduced. In reply to a question in connection with jerry buildings put to the honourable Director of Public Works on the 4th of October last, the honourable member said:—"I have read the articles referred to and think there is foundation for the allegations. The powers possessed by my Department are defined in the Ordinances 15 of 1889 and 25 of 1891. An officer of the Department, assisted by an overseer, inspects building works in progress. The exceptional amount of such work in the colony at present makes an increase in the staff necessary if this work of supervision is to be thoroughly performed. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government." The staff of the Department should be increased. If the staff is not strong enough it would be true economy to obtain additional engineers

equal to carrying out urgently needed and important public works, as was done with the Tytam Reservoir. If the staff is not sufficient to do what is necessary it is not too late to vote a considerable temporary or permanent increase. I suggest that a vote be asked for extraordinary staff. I do not propose at present to move, as I had intended at one time to do, the rejection of the votes for Public Works in the New Territory, as they ought to be gone on with. I think, however, that the large outlay for Police Stations, roads, &c., necessary for the opening up of the New Territory for profitable use should be met by means of a Silver Loan. It would be inequitable and impolitic to charge the colony's revenue with the cost of developing the New Territory, acquired as much in Imperial as in Colonial interests—inequitable because the present generation will derive small benefit therefrom; impolitic inasmuch as the diversion of the colony's revenue will retard the construction of urgently needed public works already unduly delayed. It is my intention to submit to the Council a resolution on the subject of a Silver Loan at no very distant date.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—Will members have an opportunity of looking over this memorandum?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly. It has been laid on the table and will be made public.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I think it is the rule that in committee a motion need not be seconded and that anyone can speak on the motion.

The CHAIRMAN—That is so.

THE HON. DR. HO KAI'S VIEWS.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—With your permission, then, I should like to make a few remarks. The honourable member who has just spoken has alluded to several important public works. I think you will find them in full detail urged upon His Excellency in our memorandum. The honourable member for the Chamber of Commerce did not see fit to sign that memorandum, but all that he has urged you will find urged in the memorandum, the only difference being with regard to the relative importance of the different works. We regard all the works enumerated in the memorandum, and which he has also alluded to, as being urgent public works which should be undertaken at once. It is difficult to say which of them is more important than another. All we say is that everyone of them is of very great importance, and we urge upon the Government that they should spend the entire surplus they have in hand in the immediate execution of these public works. We also wish His Excellency to forward a copy of our recommendations to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, so that the new Law Courts and the new Post Office should be at once taken in hand. I do not think there is any disagreement between the unofficial members with regard to the public works in question, which his refusal to sign would seem to indicate. I want to state this distinctly, because otherwise it may be thought that there was a split in the camp. Really we were unanimous on the subject, and I think the only reason for his refusing to sign was that he wished to put one public work as more important than another. With regard to the motion, I think it is useless. I believe that His Excellency the Governor is quite as anxious as we are to forward public works, and as we have now a large surplus, which will fulfil the condition imposed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies—namely, that we must have a surplus of over \$100,000 before undertaking any extraordinary public works of any magnitude—every effort will be made to push them forward. We shall have a good balance next year and we have a balance already in hand of over \$400,000, and under these circumstances I think we are justified in desiring to have all the important public works gone on with at once. As I have already said, I think His Excellency the Governor is quite as anxious as ourselves that these public works should be taken in hand, and I think the memorandum just laid before the committee will receive every consideration from His Excellency and will receive his cordial support, so that I do not feel justified in supporting the amendment of the honourable member for the Chamber of Commerce.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I should like to know how the honourable member for the Chamber of Commerce arrives at the balance of \$800,000.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—According to the Governor's opening speech there will be a surplus at the end of this year of about \$400,000. The ordinary expenditure for next year is estimated at \$2,888,000 and the revenue at \$3,300,000. If you take the ordinary expenditure from the gross revenue you will find that there is a surplus of \$436,000 available for Public Works Extraordinary. \$400,000 and \$436,000 make up \$836,000 in the aggregate. If you refer to page six of the Estimates you will find the figures there. I submit that the Government would be justified in asking the Council to vote a much larger sum than \$330,000 for public works during the next year.

The CHAIRMAN—Do you think we should be justified in voting this \$436,000 surplus in addition to the sum of \$331,100? This in round figures would amount to about \$800,000.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I would not go so far as that, but I think the Government would be justified in asking \$600,000 instead of \$400,000.

The COLONIAL TREASURER observed that the revenue being larger than the expenditure the money would be still in hand and would be available for supplemental votes during the year.

The CHAIRMAN—Although no account is taken of it in the Estimates, the surplus, as the Colonial Treasurer has pointed out, will be available. His Excellency the Governor, in his opening remarks, informed the Council that it was his intention to expend that surplus on public works. That remark was made by His Excellency in his opening speech to the Council, as honourable members will remember.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I quite recollect His Excellency's statement and remarks, but all the same I think the Government would be justified in asking the Council to vote the increased amount which I have mentioned.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that it was impossible to bring forward an estimate showing an expenditure in excess of the revenue.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—But in the one case it is practically an assured surplus, whereas you are dealing with one far distant which might not be realised. There being such a large balance at the end of this year together with the balance from last year would justify the Government in asking the Council to expend that money in the course of next year on urgently needed public works which have been unduly delayed.

The CHAIRMAN—His Excellency the Governor, as I have informed the Council, proposes to proceed with these urgent public works and to apply to the Council for supplementary votes. I noticed that in the memorandum prepared by the unofficial members the "policy of starving public works" is referred to. It is only fair to point out that the delay in carrying out public works has in a great measure been due to the fact that the colony has been called upon to meet very heavy unforeseen expenditure owing to the frequent visitations of plague, and this unforeseen expenditure has been met without any corresponding increase in taxation. Money which if these sad events had not occurred would have been available for public works had to be expended in measures taken to check the epidemics of plague.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—But if it is the intention of the Government and His Excellency to expend that money, the staff of the Public Works Department instead of being increased is being reduced.

The CHAIRMAN—I am not aware that the staff of the Public Works Department is being reduced, and I should say that if public works are to be pushed on next year so far from the staff being reduced it would be absolutely necessary to increase it. That is a matter which will of course require consideration. If an increase is necessary that increase of course will have to be made in order to carry out the public works which are regarded as pressing.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—But there is a surplus available and the Government, if it is seriously intended to carry out those works, should make the necessary provision for an increased staff. The Honourable the Director of Public Works on the 4th October admitted

plainly that his staff was insufficient to properly superintend the construction of jerry buildings. In the course of the past year quite a number of jerry buildings have come down and there has been great loss of life. It is pitiable we should be here with a large surplus and yet make no provision for any increase in the staff of the Public Works Department.

The CHAIRMAN—As I have already pointed out, it is almost certain that this increase will be necessary, and it is not improbable that before long every honourable member will have an opportunity of giving his vote in favour of this increase. Has any other honourable member any remarks to make with regard to this amendment?

No one responded and the matter was put to the vote. The amendment was lost, no one voting for it but the mover.

THE NEW LAW COURTS.

The CHAIRMAN—We will now proceed to consider these items one by one.

The first item was "New Law Courts \$20,000."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I beg to move an amendment that we substitute the words "new Post Office" for "new Law Courts." A new Post Office is absolutely essential, in fact indispensable. Although the present Supreme Court may be inconvenient in many ways, it is still possible to carry on business there, whereas it is not practicable to do so in the present Post Office premises.

The CHAIRMAN—I think there is a great deal in what the honourable member says as to the absolute necessity for a new Post Office—a necessity of which not only every member of this committee but of the community generally is convinced; but the difficulty is this—Can an arrangement be made to erect the new Law Courts on the site selected and the new Post Office simultaneously. If any scheme can be shown which will meet this difficulty I am perfectly certain the Government would be only too glad to carry it out.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Probably some arrangement might be made whereby the building of the Law Courts and the Post Office might be carried on at the same time. I think if you will look at our memorandum we refer to it there. In paragraph 13 we say:—"The desirability of at once proceeding with the construction of the new Law Courts has been alluded to in His Excellency's speech. Seeing that this work will take several years to complete, it cannot be too strongly urged that the work should be put in hand immediately. The projected new Post Office is even more urgently needed. We are of opinion that this work should on no account be delayed until the completion of the new Law Courts, but that its construction should be commenced at the same time if possible." Perhaps some arrangement might be arrived at whereby the Post Office and Law Courts could be proceeded with at once. I understand the honourable member opposite (the Hon. J. J. Keewick) will place before His Excellency some scheme whereby a portion of the City Hall might be available for the purposes of a court house.

The CHAIRMAN—If any scheme can be drawn up and it can be shown that it will work satisfactorily the Government will be quite ready to entertain it, so that these two very urgent public works may be carried out at the same time and thus postponing one until the other is complete may be avoided. (Hear, hear.) Do you wish to have your amendment put?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Please. My amendment is that "The New Post Office" be substituted for "The New Law Courts."

On the amendment being put to the vote it was lost, and the vote was agreed to.

The following items were agreed to without comment:—Public Works Department Store, \$3,000; No. 7 Police Station and Branch at Kennedytown, \$12,000; Disinfectant Station and Quarters, \$7,000.

THE ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC LATRINES.

The next item was "Latrines \$5,000."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I am aware it is not possible to propose an increase, but I really think that the question of public latrines should be taken in hand and that this vote should be increased.

The CHAIRMAN—It is not within the province of this committee to propose any increase, as the honourable member has pointed out, but I think it is certain that next year the erection of public latrines will be pushed forward. The Government fully recognises the desirability and indeed the absolute necessity for these works being put in hand and carried out as quickly as possible. The sum here may appear small, but without doubt a much larger sum will be expended next year out of the surplus. This is a subject upon which His Excellency may touch to-morrow.

The item was agreed to.

The following items were agreed to without comment:—Electric Lighting Government House, \$3,000; Forming and Kerbing Streets, \$10,000; Extensions of Gas Lighting \$1,000; Improvement of Gas Lighting \$2,000.

THE GOVERNOR'S PEAK RESIDENCE.

The next item was "Governor's Peak Residence \$15,000."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Before the new residence for the Governor at the Peak is gone on with would it not be possible to take in hand the chair shelter for the coolies at the Tramway Station? It is only a matter of \$4,000.

The CHAIRMAN—I think the chair shelter is a work which will be completed before the Governor's Peak Residence.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—The Governor at all events is provided with a dry shelter whereas the poor chair coolies are not.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not think it is necessary to draw invidious distinctions between the housing of the Governor and the housing of the chair coolies. I think the proper housing of both is necessary, and I have no doubt the honourable member will be glad to see both properly housed.

The item was agreed to.

The following items were agreed to without comment:—Laying out Farm Lot No. 1, &c., Yaumati, \$6,000; Stores Account, \$100; Pokfulam Conduit Road, \$5,000; Praya Reclamation, \$10,000; Praya Reclamation, Government Piers, \$10,000.

GAOL EXTENSION.

The next item was "Gaol Extension \$12,000."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I ask what this extension is?

The CHAIRMAN—The honourable the Director of Public Works will explain.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—This is the balance of an old vote taken some years ago and which will be expended in putting up a new block of cells very urgently needed in the Gaol premises and covering over the exercise yard. It is really the completion of a scheme which has been going on for four or five years. It is not a new work. It is a re-vote of a balance.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Is the extension in the old Gaol side?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—In the old Gaol side.

The item was agreed to.

The following items were agreed to without comment:—Sewerage of Victoria, \$5,000; Drainage Works, Miscellaneous, \$10,000.

QUARTERS FOR GAOL STAFF.

The next item was "Quarters for Gaol Staff \$41,500."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I ask whether the plans have been approved of?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—Yes. This is a work also which has been delayed a little owing to the great difficulties as to the site. It is a work actually going on at present between the Magistracy and Wyndham Street. This is a re-vote of money which we have not been able to expend this year. The plans were passed I should think I am right in saying about 12 months ago.

The CHAIRMAN—Then they have been approved?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—Yes.

The item was agreed to.

The item "Swine Depot, Kennedytown, \$5,000," was agreed to without comment.

THE NEW POLICE STATIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The following were the items referring to the new Police Stations for the New Territory:—Police Station, Sai-kung, \$5,000; Police Station, Shan-tin, \$5,000; Police Station, Tsun Wan, \$5,000; Police Station, Sterling Inlet, \$5,000.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—In connection with the expenditure on public works, have any definite instructions been received from the Colonial Office forbidding the raising of a silver loan to provide for the necessary works for the improvement of the New Territory?

The CHAIRMAN—You will remember that in my report on the New Territory I myself referred to the question of a loan. The proposal was not at the time approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, so I think I am right in stating that at the present the Secretary of State for the Colonies is not in favour of the raising of a loan.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Then, the whole of the money for public works in the New Territory, without which it cannot be developed, is to be taken out of the revenue of this colony?

The CHAIRMAN—The only public works contemplated in the New Territory at present are the erection of police stations with a view to the proper policing of the Territory and the construction of the road from Kowloon to Shan-tin to improve communication between Hong-kong and the New Territory. The Government do not contemplate at present any more works, but will allow time to lapse so as to see what works are necessary for further development.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I think when the Secretary of State was advised on the matter the actual on expenditure in the New Territory was not fully known to him—such as the amount for policing, which was afterwards amended.

The CHAIRMAN—The expenditure in the New Territory is certainly in excess of what was at first anticipated.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Had the Secretary of State known that he might have given a different decision.

The CHAIRMAN—I should not like to say what he would have done.

No other point was raised and the item was agreed to.

The items "Taipo Road \$30,000" and "Pier in Deep Water, Taipo, \$5,000" were agreed to without comment.

SURVEY OF NEW TERRITORY.

The next item was "Survey of New Territory \$20,000."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Have any arrangements for the survey been made?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes; complete arrangements have been made. The survey party has arrived from India and its members are now actually at work. Any more particulars which honourable members may desire the Director of Public Works will be glad to supply on application to him at his office.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Are the whole staff here?

The CHAIRMAN—Practically the whole staff.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—How long may they take to complete their survey? Is it a question of two years?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—My estimate is two years. The gentleman who is at the head of the surveying party is not able to form an opinion as yet, but he has no doubt it will take more than one year. He has not seen all the country yet.

The CHAIRMAN—As I have stated, if any more information is desired as to this interesting work of survey, the Director of Public Works will be glad to give all information on application at his office, where all the papers are.

The item was agreed to.

The following items, amounting in the aggregate to \$73,000, and chargeable to water account, were agreed to without comment:—Taitam Waterworks Extension, \$15,000; City of Victoria and Hill District Waterworks \$27,000; Water Supply, Kowloon, \$20,000; Water Account, (Meters, &c.), \$5,000; Waterworks, Miscellaneous, \$6,000.

AN EXPLANATION FROM THE COLONIAL TREASURER.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, we have now been through all the Estimates and we have considered them item by item, and every item is recommended and will be brought up to-morrow in the Council; but before we break up the meeting to-day there is one subject to which reference was made at the early part of the meeting—the statement of assets and liabilities. I shall be glad if the Colonial Treasurer will give

some explanation, as there seems to be some misunderstanding with regard to the statement.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER—The misapprehension has arisen from the difference between the statement of assets and liabilities dated 15th March, 1899, and statement A, which is dated 29th September, 1899. The correct statement of assets and liabilities of the colony on the 31st December, 1898, is the one dated 15th March, 1899. That is a statement which stands by itself. The other statement is one which can only be taken in conjunction with the calculation on the front page. You will observe that the balance \$251,000 is carried over and amalgamated in this calculation. Statement A is exactly similar to the statement dated 15th March with this exception—that items of revenue and expenditure are omitted. These items revenue and expenditure will come in and have been taken into account in the estimated revenue and the estimated expenditure of the current year—the first two items in this calculation on the front page. It would be utterly impossible to have them coming into the balance of assets for 1898, as in that case they would appear twice over in the calculation. I think honourable members may take it that on the date this statement was made up \$376,618 was a fairly correct estimate, as far as estimates can be correct, of the position of the colony at the end of the year.

THE CHAIRMAN—I thought it as well this statement should be made, as some misunderstanding seemed to exist.

THE HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Even that statement still leaves the return incomprehensible and unintelligible.

THE CHAIRMAN—To you, Sir?

THE HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD—To me. One shows a balance of assets of \$251,000 and the other a balance of assets of \$213,000. Now either one or the other must be correct.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER—I have already said that the return dated 15th March, 1899, is the correct one. The other one must not be taken by itself but in conjunction with the calculation on the front page, as explained in my covering letter.

THE CHAIRMAN—Has any other honourable member any questions to ask in regard to this statement? If not I take it that you comprehend the matter and are satisfied. That completes the business.

The meeting then separated.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

On Thursday afternoon a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.)

HIS EXCELLENCY Major-General GARDNER, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops)

HON. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary)

HON. B. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master)

HON. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police)

HON. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer)

HON. B. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works)

HON. C. P. CHEATRE, C.M.G.

HON. DR. HO KAI.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

THE HON. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

HON. WAI A YUK.

HON. J. J. KESWICK.

MR. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

FINANCE.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to lay on the table Financial Minute No. 25 and to move that it be referred to the Finance Committee. I also beg to lay on the table the reports of the Finance Committee Nos. 8 and 9 and to move their adoption. Your Excellency will observe from report No. 9 that the Finance Committee yesterday considered the remaining portion of the Estimates for 1900 and that the items were unanimously recommended by that Committee with the exception of the item referring to the new Law Court. With regard to that item an amendment was proposed by the honourable member who represents the Chamber of Commerce, but it was not carried.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY ON THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS' MEMORANDUM.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Before I put the motion I wish to mention to this honourable Council that I received a memorandum which was presented by the unofficial members and signed I believe by all with one exception, and as far as I can gather the exception was taken as to the degree of necessity of the public works rather than as to the question of the advisability of carrying out a great number of those works. I wish to tell the Council that I have gone carefully over this memorandum, and I may say that I am as much in favour of carrying out these works as any member of this Council—(Hear hear.)—but I think it is well that the Council should understand clearly the position of the Government in this matter. The reason why these works have not been included in the Estimates is perfectly plain. We are restricted here by instructions (which have been rather frequent) to confining our Estimates to the amount of money which we have actually estimated as coming into the revenue for the year. The question as to what is to be done with the money which may remain over as a surplus is a matter which must go forward to the Secretary of State for his sanction and be laid before this Council for their sanction when we have the money in our hands. That is a very safe principle, I think, and what I propose to do. As the honourable members of the Council know, there has been a certain amount of discussion, which I have read carefully. There is no certainty in human affairs, but we have almost a certainty that we shall have a large balance at the end of the current year, and so soon as that balance is available we can deal with it. In the meantime we shall go on with these works that have been placed in the Estimates. We have already got your authority for these, and no doubt we shall have the sanction of the Secretary of State, as soon as we have that surplus, and before the money which has been voted has been expended, I hope to lay before you supplemental votes which will be necessary for the carrying on of these works. There is one question raised in this memorandum which I consider is rather an unfortunate one, inasmuch as it is a matter of principle. Section 4 of the memorandum reads:—"Whilst we are ready to concede that certain of the contemplated works in the New Territory may be defrayed out of the general revenue, we are most decidedly of opinion that the principal works for developing it should be provided for by a Loan. The public works in this island have been long deferred for want of funds, and now that they are available for proceeding with the most important of these works we feel bound to deprecate, in the strongest manner, any proposal to divert such funds to any other purpose whatever." Now my instructions are very definite from the Secretary of State, and those instructions are that the revenue of the New Territory shall be a portion of the general revenue of the colony, and that being the case the necessary expenditure on the New Territory must come out of the general revenue of the colony. Apart from the fact that Her Majesty's Government do not consider that a loan is advisable for these works in the New Territory—and I may say at once that I concur entirely in the opinion of the Secretary of State—the fact remains that we have a certain amount of money over what we require. There is a prime necessity in the New Territory. That prime necessity is a road to connect this place with the deep water at Mira Bay. That road having been made and the police stations built or well in hand, I do not know that, with the exception possibly of the Kowloon Water Works, there are any other important works for which money will be required for the present. I know that it has been proposed that we shall make a number of roads, and I believe that in the future a number of roads will be made, but I think it is well to know by experience what it is absolutely necessary to spend in the first instance. No doubt it will be necessary to connect these roads in the future, but I do not think any burning necessity exists at present except for that particular road to Mira Bay, which will give us immediate command of the district. Police Stations of course are necessary. As you know, the amount of money required for the policing of the New Territory is a good deal

in excess of what was estimated at the time Mr. Lockhart first saw the country. We thought a very few police would be sufficient; now we know the condition of the country and that from time immemorial clan fights and armed robberies have been the order of the day. I admit that one of the works it will be necessary to go on with in the near future is the Kowloon Water Works. Then the question of a loan may be finally considered if we have not the money to go on with the work, but at the present moment we have plenty of money for the works we propose to take in hand. Then there is another question, a question of principle, and one which will have to be considered later. That is the question as to how far we are justified in the colony, in taking for public works which are not works of permanent utility, like waterworks or sanitary works, in considering the premia derived from land sales as available for the purpose. It must be admitted by all you gentlemen, who are business men, that in using this premia we are using the capital of the colony, and the question arises as to whether that premia or a certain portion of it should not be put into a reserve fund in view of less revenue from this source in the future. That is a matter which requires very careful consideration, especially at a time like the present when we derive a very large income from land sales. I am not at all sure that that large income is going to continue in years to come. This is one of those matters which will have to be considered here and also in London. With regard to the fifth paragraph in the memorandum, I am entirely in accord with it, and I think I may say the same with regard to the memorandum as a whole. I am as anxious as you that these works should be carried out. I see the honourable member for the Chamber of Commerce was anxious about a New Post Office, a shelter for chair coolies at the Peak, and public latrines. I entirely agree with him. It is my intention that a shelter for chair coolies at the Peak shall be put up next year; it is my intention that as many latrines as possible shall be built next year, because I think they are of cardinal importance; but that does not touch the general principle that in the estimates laid before us now we only feel justified in including the amount of money which will be covered by the estimated revenue for the year. I think honourable members will understand what I mean. I am anxious to go on with these works, and as soon as the money is actually in our hands I mean to ask for authority to go on with them and to lay supplemental estimates before you, as has been done from time to time. As regards the Law Courts, I think I mentioned in my opening speech to the Council that the Law Courts blocked the way for the Post Office, and in broad lines that is quite true, if you are to have a new Post Office built on the present site, a portion of which is occupied by the Law Courts; you cannot proceed to build that Post Office on its present site until you have made some arrangement for the accommodation of the Post Office during the building of the new premises. However, it is quite possible, I think, that there may be some arrangement made by which the Post Office might be improved a little, because I do think that in its present condition it is almost impossible to carry on the work of the colony in it. It is a discredit to the colony, and it is impossible for the Postmaster to do his work in it properly. I have been considering the question with the Colonial Secretary, and I shall be very glad if any hon. member can make any suggestion which may possibly enable us to tide over the time during which the Law Courts will be building. I may say that the plans for the new Law Courts arrived by the last mail and they are now on the table, and I invite honourable gentlemen to look at them. I think they are sufficiently advanced to enable us to begin the foundations early next year. The Director of Public Works thinks it can be done. It will take not more than twelve months to get these foundations properly constructed. By the end of that time the details of the plans will be fully made out, and we shall be able to go on with the work. I thought it was well that you should know that in this matter I am entirely with you. I shall forward the memorandum to the Secretary of State.

The motion was carried.

THE EXPENDITURE OF THE 1893 LOAN.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a return showing the expenditure of the 1893 loan, which had been asked for by the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

The return was as follows:—

Public Works from 1892 to 30th September, 1899. Praya Reclamation \$376,134.40, Praya Reclamation, Reconstruction of Piers \$80,000, Central Market \$222,729.59, Slaughter-Houses, Pig and Sheep Depôts \$98,215.04, Cattle Depôts \$15,049.81, Water and Drainage Works \$752,897.92, Gaol Extension \$159,381.85. Total, \$1,702,588.21. Balance on 30th September—\$89,365.73.

THE PLANS OF THE NEW LAW COURTS.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—By Your Excellency's directions I beg to lay on the table the plans of the proposed New Law Courts. The architects require some further information before completing certain architectural details, which information will be forwarded in due course. The general arrangement of the courts was approved by the Chief Justice and the other officials concerned some time ago, to whom the original sketches were at your Excellency's suggestion submitted. Certain alterations and improvements were suggested by the officials who have to occupy the buildings, and these have all been attended to. I think in a satisfactory manner by the architect. The ground plan has been approved, and consequently there is no reason why there should be any delay in proceeding with the foundations, which I think can be commenced early in the coming year.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In the absence of the Acting Attorney-General I beg to lay on the table the report of the Standing Law Committee on the Merchant Shipping Bill. An examination of this report will show that many amendments have been suggested by the committee. Those amendments will be formally moved by the Acting Attorney-General when the Bill is again brought before the Council. In the meantime it is thought advisable to let honourable members have some time to consider these amendments.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time:—
A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the carriage and possession of arms and ammunition. A Bill entitled The New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1899.

THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES BILL PASSED.

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER, the Bill entitled an Ordinance to make further provision for the sanitation of the colony and to repeal certain enactments of the Closed Houses and Insanitary Dwellings Ordinance, 1894, was read a third time and passed.

THE ESTIMATES.

The Council went into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding two million six hundred and eighty-one thousand and fifty-one dollars to the Public Service of the year 1900.

The various items were read over by the Acting Clerk of Councils.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—We will take the items seriatim if any honourable members wish to make any observation with regard to any of them. Do not take one item and then go back to another. Is there any on the first page?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—With regard to "Public Works Extraordinary" I beg to move that the vote in the 1900 Estimates for "Public Works Extraordinary" be referred back to the Departments concerned for reconsideration and to be remodelled. When in Finance Committee yesterday I moved a like resolution but found no support. I now feel it my duty to invite the opinion of Your Excellency and of this Council on the questions I desire to raise. In spite of the explanations tendered yesterday, the Treasurer's Financial Returns in their amended form which accompanied the Draft Estimates are to me still unintelligible. There cannot be two different balances of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1898. The final settlement of the Appropriation Bill should be postponed until these accounts are cleared up. I submit that the

money proposed to be voted is not properly applied, as there are many very urgent and most important public works omitted which demand immediate attention and should be provided for. The actual assets available at the end of 1900 for "Public Works Extraordinary" is the estimated surplus on 31st proximo, say \$400,000, plus the estimated surplus revenue over the ordinary expenditure during next year, say \$486,000, or an aggregate of \$886,000. According to the Estimates, there is only to be expended during 1900 the sum of \$331,100 on Public Works Extraordinary. I think the Government would have been fully justified in asking the Council to sanction the expenditure of say \$500,000 or even \$600,000. The public works are, in order of their importance and urgency, latrines, shelter for chair-coolies at the Peak, the speedy extension of our means of obtaining, storing, and distributing water, a Post Office, &c. The latrines should be put in hand and finished before the end of next year. I earnestly urge that a vote be taken for the full amount requisite to complete them during 1900. In reply to a question in connection with jerry buildings put to the honourable Director of Public Works on the 4th of October last, the honourable member said:—"I have read the articles referred to and think there is foundation for the allegations. The powers possessed by my department are defined in the Ordinances 15 of 1889 and 25 of 1891. An officer of the Department, assisted by an overseer, inspects building works in progress. The exceptional amount of such work in the Colony at present makes an increase in the staff necessary if this work of supervision is to be thoroughly performed. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government."

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (interrupting)—I am afraid the honourable member is not in order. At the present moment there is no proposal as to the increase of the staff in question before the Council, and I do not think any member of the Council would be in order in proposing an increase in that staff or in the vote referring to it.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I do not propose an increase.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Did you not propose an increase in the staff?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—No.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I beg your pardon. What is your proposal then?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—My amendment is that this vote on "Public Works Extraordinary" be referred back to the departments concerned for reconsideration and to be remodelled.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—The committee accepted this Bill yesterday and I question whether without the permission of the Council you can propose now that it be referred back to the committee. You can propose that any vote be deleted or reduced.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I proposed that it be referred back to the departments concerned not to the Finance Committee.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR held that this would not be in order, adding that if any honourable member had any concrete proposition to make or a proposal to reduce the vote before the Council it was in order to propose that reduction.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I abide by your ruling. I therefore propose that the words "Post Office" be substituted for "Law Courts" in the first item under the head "Public Works Extraordinary." A new Post Office is more urgently needed than new Law Courts.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I think you can do that. I am not quite certain about it, but I will give the honourable member the benefit of the doubt and put his proposition to the Council. Of course the honourable member will understand that the result of the carrying of his proposition would be that the new Law Courts would disappear from the Estimates.

The amendment was put to the vote and lost.

Answering HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said he did not wish the names to be taken.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I propose that the vote for "Public Works Extraordinary" be reduced by \$100, as I am not satisfied with the appropriation of the money as it stands in the Bill.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—What item would the honourable gentleman suggest that the sum be taken from?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—From the total.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR said it would be necessary for some particular item to be picked out for reduction.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Then I propose that the vote of \$20,000 for new Law Courts be reduced to \$19,900.

The amendment was put and lost.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, in reply to His Excellency, said he did not wish the name to be taken, but he subsequently added: I desire to have my dissent recorded.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Your dissent is recorded as a matter of course in the minutes of the Council. Really you can only record a dissent by asking for a division and showing that you are in a minority. Unfortunately this is passed now: I asked if you wished for a division and you said no.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I was unaware that it would deprive me of recording my dissent as I have a right to do under the standing rules.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—As a matter of fact your dissent is recorded by your observations, but the way to record a dissent is by asking for a division.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I desire to lay on the table a statement of my reasons for dissenting.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I do not know whether we can receive those reasons.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—In accordance with Rule 32 of the Standing Orders any member dissenting from the opinion of the majority may if he wishes have his dissent recorded and the reason of his dissent.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Oh certainly, you are quite right. Is there any other observation with regard to the items on page 2?

There being no response, the Council resumed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—If there is no objection, and as there has been no material alteration in this Bill in committee, I propose to move the third reading to-day. Your Excellency will remember that the Bill was brought before the Council some time ago and the discussion of it was delayed in order to enable the unofficial members to have full opportunity of considering the various items. I think we are all agreed that every opportunity has been afforded them. Therefore, if there is no objection, I propose the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding two million six hundred and eighty-one thousand six hundred and fifty-one dollars to the Public Service of the year 1900.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned until Thursday next.

HELP FOR SUFFERERS FROM THE WAR.

Before leaving the room HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR said—I have sent round the Council table an advertisement which I propose to have inserted in the local press asking British residents to come together on Monday next at 12 o'clock for the purpose of considering more fully the question of making a collection for the widows and orphans of our soldiers and sailors who fall in the war. This movement has been inaugurated by the *China Mail*, which is to be congratulated for its patriotic move, but it was thought it would be better if the representative British inhabitants could be called together to make arrangements for the more complete canvassing of the British population, most of whom will no doubt be glad to contribute. I shall be glad to have the opportunity of seeing most of you on Monday at 12 o'clock.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Immediately after the Council meeting a meeting of the Finance Committee was held, the Colonial Secretary (the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN said he had only one minute to bring before the committee that day, and that was one in which the Governor recommended the council to vote a sum of \$1,500 in aid of the vote "Maintenance of Waterworks,

Kowloon." With regard to this vote, the Director of Public Works reported that the necessity arose partly through the large consumption of water due to the increase of population and industries at Kowloon and partly through the severe drought at the beginning of the year, when water had to be pumped from one of the valleys to the clear water reservoir at Yau-mati.

The vote was agreed to.

This was all the business.

REVIEW.

Russia on the Pacific and the Siberian Railway. By VLADIMIR, author of "the China-Japan War." With Maps and Illustrations. London: Sampson, Low, Marston & Co., Limited. 1899. (Hongkong: Kelly and Walsh, Limited.)

VLADIMIR tells us in his preface that the critics of his former work paid him the compliment of supposing he was a Japanese, and he says he wishes, though he can hardly hope, that his assiduous study of a little known subject may lead them to suppose now that he is a Russian. Were he in reality a Russian he could hardly have treated his subject more sympathetically.

To illustrate the need existing for information regarding Russian expansion Vladimir quotes from an article in the *Nineteenth Century* for June, 1898, by Mr. H. M. Stanley, M.P., entitled "Splendid Isolation or What?" the following passage:—"Is this picture far-fetched? He who dares say so betrays his ignorance of the rate of Russian progress over Asia. Twenty-eight years ago she had just effected a landing on the eastern shore of the Caspian. During this short interval she has stridden across the continent and is now at Port Arthur preparing for the locomotive from St. Petersburg." "Here," says Vladimir, "we have a prominent man upbraiding people for ignoring what is historically false. Russia has not stridden across the continent in the last twenty-eight years; she did traverse Asia very rapidly—in about half a century—but it was more than two centuries ago." That is to say, Russia strode across the continent and reached the Northern Pacific seaboard at the last mentioned period. The movement that has so greatly interested the world during the latter part of the present century is the extension southward of Russia's Eastern possessions, coupled with the construction of the great line that is to place them in railway communication with Europe. More than two centuries ago, however, Russian adventurers were at work on the Amur, seeking to add that rich region to the dominions of Cesar, but expansion in this direction was then for a long period stopped by the Treaty of Nerchinsk, signed on the 27th August, 1689, which fixed as the frontier of the Chinese and Russian empires the river Gorbizsa, the line of Mountains bounding on the North the basin of the Amur up to the river Uda, and the river Argun. The treaty, says Vladimir, was inglorious and disadvantageous for Russia, as she not only gave up her best sea board on the Pacific and the course of the Amur, indispensable for the development of the lands around the Baikal, but she abruptly stopped the eastern expansion, which had been going on steadily for two hundred years since she threw off the Tartar yoke. "The treaty of Nerchinsk," he continues, "is remarkable as being the first concuded by China with a Western Power, and it is also the most glorious. In her successive relations with other nations China has been obliged constantly to submit to disadvantageous conditions and suffer loss. Nerchinsk and Shimonoseki are the extreme terms of the series marking the gradual decline of the empire in the last two centuries."

It was not until 1850 that a Russian post was established on the Amur, and in 1858 the river was confirmed to Russia. Since then the position of Russia in the Far East has assumed a steadily increasing importance, and many Englishmen see in her advance a danger to the influence of Great Britain. This danger Vladimir brushes entirely aside and the greater part of his concluding chapter is devoted to the argument that the interests of the two nations are in no way antagonistic. "Though," he says, "Russia certainly needs further annexa-

tion in Manchuria, she is as much interested as Great Britain, if not more, in the independence of China." Elsewhere he says:—"Russia has never entertained ideas of conquest of China: this would be contrary to the ancient tradition of her policy, which has always aimed at occupying thinly-peopled lands affording room for her surplus population."

The author's conclusions will no doubt be received with scepticism by many English readers, and the following passage may be cited as showing that the scepticism is not unwarranted:—"The occupation of Port Arthur, which has completely diverted the attention of Russia from Korea, has removed the greatest cause of dissension between Japan and Russia; the latest conventions between the two empires have settled all outstanding difficulties." Hardly has this statement passed through the press before we find Russia and Japan again on the verge of war, the quarrel having reference to the establishment of Russia in the Korean port of Manpo. But however the author's conclusions may be received, from a historical point of view his work is invaluable and should be carefully studied by all who aim at an intelligent understanding of the course of events in the Far East.

An interesting portion of the chapter on the annexation of the Amur deals with the successful defence of Russia in the Far East against the allied fleets of Great Britain and France at the time of the Crimean War, a piece of history which to most readers is comparatively unknown. Though perhaps not altogether agreeable reading for Englishmen, it is none the less important that the circumstances should be known. Speaking of the successful defence of Petropavlofsk, the author says this unlooked for success in a remote region contrasted forcibly with the uniform misfortunes attending the Russian arms in the other military operations at home. "The news of the victory of Petropavlofsk," he says elsewhere, "increased the general interest in the Far East and convinced the most sceptical that Muravioff was not a visionary, and that his plans to defend Kamohatka via the Amur were of practical utility. His foresight and activity had spared Russia a disaster in the Pacific at the time she was suffering misfortunes in the Black Sea." Thus it appears that the (to England) profitless Crimean war contributed materially to that expansion of Russia in the Far East which has during the last few years assumed such importance as to seriously perturb the world's politics.

THE MISSIONARY DOCTOR AND HER CHINESE LOVER.

SHE ADOPTS A CHINESE NAME.—THE WEDDING TO TAKE PLACE.

21st November.

Every effort to induce Miss Susan Halverson, the American missionary doctor, to give up the idea of marrying the Chinaman who was at one time her cook has failed, and in all probability the wedding will take place before the week is out.

Yesterday Consul-General Wildman received a communication from the Registrar-General's Office to the effect that the notice of marriage given by the Chinaman who wishes to marry Miss Halverson expires to-day and they can be married as soon after as they choose.

The notice, which is posted up on the door of the Supreme Court, is dated November 8th, and is signed by Lam Ts Ying, who is described as a medical student and as residing at 171, Third Street, Hongkong. Miss Halverson is described as a medical missionary residing in Canton. She has apparently taken a Chinese name, as the notice gives "Wa So Shan" as her alias.

It appears that Dr. Shomaker and Dr. Swan, of Canton, presented a petition to Mr. H. T. Smith, U.S. Acting Consul at Canton, asking that a Commission should be appointed enquire into the sanity of Miss Halverson. Mr. Smith sent the paper on to Consul-General Wildman, who presented it to the Registrar-General in Hongkong. The Registrar-General laid it before the Acting Attorney-General, who stated that inasmuch as the woman was an American citizen if the American Consul-General wanted a Lunacy Commission to be appointed he had better see

some solicitor about it, as the Colonial Government would not have one appointed at their own expense. It was pointed out that in the event of such a commission not being appointed there was really nothing in the law to prevent a white woman from marrying a Chinaman, any more than there was to prevent a white man from marrying a Chinese woman, which was frequently taking place.

Consul-General Wildman has referred the case back to the Acting American Consul at Canton asking him whether he wishes to go to the expense of a Commission, but it is hardly likely that the matter will be taken further.

22nd November.

On Tuesday a fresh notice was posted in connection with the wedding of Miss Halverson. It is dated Nov. 20th, and consequently the wedding cannot take place until 15 days after that date.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

On Saturday morning a body supposed to be that of Private Jones, of the R.W.F., was washed ashore near the Naval Yard. Jones, who was on police duty on board the *Messene*, was observed in the water on Friday. A boat was sent out after him, but he had disappeared before it reached him. The remains were interred in the Protestant Cemetery, Happy Valley, on Saturday afternoon. On Sunday morning, however, Captain Cadogan, of the R.W.F., reported to the police authorities that there was reason to believe that the body was not that of Jones but of another private named Jordan, who had also been employed on police duty on the *Messene*, and who had been missing since the 14th inst. In consequence an order for the exhumation of the body was granted and on Monday the disinterment took place in the presence of Mr. Gompertz, Acting Police Magistrate, and Inspector Cuthbert, and no doubt being felt in the minds of other members of the regiment that the body was that of Jordan the remains were reinterred in the Roman Catholic Cemetery—Jordan being a Roman Catholic—a priest of the Roman Catholic Church officiating.

At about half-past five on Tuesday afternoon Mr. Baldwin, who is in the employ of Mr. A. G. Gordon, engineer, launch builder, and contractor, was on board the American steamer *Alcoa*, which was lying off Wanchai, when he noticed a body floating in the water. He called the attention of Sergeant Goulay, who was in a police launch, to it and the Sergeant took it on board and had it conveyed to the Mortuary. The body was very much decomposed but it was next day identified as that of Private Jones, R.W.F.

THE TELEGRAPHIC CENSORSHIP.

TELEGRAMS IN SECRET LANGUAGE FOR SOUTH AFRICA PROHIBITED.

The following notification has been issued by the Cable Companies:—

The British Government notifies that in accordance with Article VIII. of the International Telegraph Convention it has decided until further notice to stop the transmission at Aden and in Cape Colony of all telegrams in secret language (code or cypher), whether private or on the service of foreign Governments, to and from the following:—Zanzibar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, German East Africa, Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, Rhodesia, British Central Africa, Orange Free State, Transvaal, Cape Colony, and Natal. Telegrams in ordinary plain language will be subject to censorship and are only to be accepted at the senders' risk.

In a fire which occurred in a saloon at Yokohama on the 11th November a seal hunter known by the name of Billy Cop, who was asleep in one of the upstairs rooms, was burnt to death.

The *China Gazette* says:—A great deal of sickness is raging amongst the German soldiers and sailors at Kiaochau. No less than twenty-three invalided soldiers from that place are now in the Shanghai General Hospital suffering from various forms of malaria or typhoid.

SUPREME COURT.

18th November.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE (THE
HON. W. MURPHY GOODMAN).

TRIAD SOCIETY CASES.

Pang Tai Shan, who was charged with being a member of an unlawful society, pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs H. E. Willmer, F. O. Ribeiro, C. A. H. Westerbarger, P. Mosler, Walter King, F. A. C. Hahn, and T. D. Donaldson.

Mr. Pollock said defendant was charged with unlawfully being a member of a certain unlawful society known by the name of the Triad Society. This charge was brought against defendant under Ordinance 8 of 1887, section 2, which among other things made it an offence for a person to be a member of a society which was known by the name of the Triad Society. It was also provided that "When any of the banners, insignia, or writings of any society declared by this ordinance to be unlawful are found in the possession, custody, or control of any person, it shall be presumed, till the contrary is shown by such person, that he is a member of such unlawful society."

The evidence in the case would show that the police, acting upon information received, went somewhere about half-past five on the morning of the 3rd October to a house at Kowloon Hang, which was a village in the New Territory somewhere between Tai-poh and Sham-chun. They were some little time in effecting an entrance, but they finally got into the house and three men were arrested, defendant being one of them. The evidence would show that defendant tried to escape by the roof. Mr. Messer would be called as a witness, and he would say he saw defendant get on to the roof through a hole, apparently with the idea of escaping from the police, but when he saw Mr. Messer he went into the house again and was arrested by the police. There would be some evidence that defendant was the owner of the house. In this house there were found various things which related to the society known as the Triad Society, including a key in Chinese, of which a translation had been made. This key undoubtedly contained references to various symbols and phrases which were used exclusively by the Triad Society, and he would call witnesses who would be able to depose to the fact that some of the leading tenets and symbols of the Triad Society were mentioned in this key. There were also other exhibits which he should be able to put in if necessary and which undoubtedly related to the Triad Society—certain flags and documents. When defendant was arrested and charged in the charge-room he admitted being a member of the Triad Society, but added that he was "compelled to worship" and become a member. In regard to the other two men, they were brought up at the Magistracy, but he did not propose to proceed with the case against them, as he did not consider the evidence against them conclusive.

The evidence given at the Magistracy was repeated.

Defendant was found guilty and sentence was deferred.

His Lordship complimented the police on the manner in which they had worked up the case.

Chu Tien, who was also charged with being a member of an unlawful society, pleaded not guilty.

The jury which heard the previous case heard this also.

Mr. Pollock said that the evidence in this case would show that at 1 p.m. on the 3rd October a Chinese Police Sergeant arrested defendant at Chin Wan in a barber's shop on the charge of being a member of the Triad Society. There were found on the person of defendant two pieces of paper (which would be produced) which had relation to the Triad Society.

The evidence given at the Magistracy was repeated.

Defendant said he was not a member of the Triad Society but was a pugilist and a medical doctor. He also understood acrobatic

feats. He knew nothing about the documents which had been produced in court. They were not found in his pocket.

Defendant was found guilty and sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, a similar sentence being imposed upon the defendant in the previous case.

November 20th.

THE MURDER CASE.

Tang Tai was charged that he did on the 24th October "feloniously, wilfully, and of his malice aforethought kill and murder one Kwong Wai." He pleaded not guilty, adding that it was only by accident that he killed deceased.

The jurors were Messrs. P. Muller, F. A. K. Hahn, W. J. Winterburn, J. H. Underwood, W. B. Walker, T. D. Donaldson, and H. E. Willmer.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney General), instructed by Mr. Bowley (Acting Crown Solicitor) appeared for the prosecution and Dr. Ho Kai for the prisoner.

Mr. Pollock said the main witness for the prosecution would be a man called Pun Cheung, who was a coolie employed in a druggist's shop at 117, Praya West. This witness would tell the jury that at about four o'clock on the afternoon of the 24th October he went out to engage coolies to carry some cargo from a boat which was lying alongside the Praya Wall to this shop, at 117, Praya West. He went out into the street and saw 12 carrying coolies, among them being prisoner and deceased, and he engaged them. All went smoothly for a time, but after a certain quantity of packages had been removed from the boat to the shop some wrangling took place between prisoner and deceased, the upshot of which was that prisoner, who had a bamboo pole in his hand, struck deceased a heavy blow on the head. Deceased at once fell down, practically in an unconscious condition. Pun Cheung would tell the jury that he was quite close to prisoner and deceased when prisoner struck deceased with the pole, and that deceased had not struck prisoner any blow at all. In fact deceased had no bamboo or any other weapon in his hand. Pun Cheung, on seeing what prisoner had done, went forward and took hold of prisoner and held him until a district watchman came up and took prisoner into custody. Prisoner said to the district watchman, "I have struck him, I will pay for his life if he dies." Prisoner at that time had in his hand the bamboo with which he had struck the blow. Prisoner was taken to the Police Station and deceased to the Government Civil Hospital. Deceased, who never seemed to have rallied, died the same evening at about half-past seven, that was to say, some three hours after being struck with this bamboo. Dr. Bell, who made the post-mortem examination, would tell the jury that all the internal organs were healthy and the cause of death was a fracture of the skull, which fracture, Dr. Bell would tell them, might have been caused by a weapon similar to the bamboo produced. When charged prisoner, after having been cautioned, made a statement to the effect that deceased and another man were fighting him and he struck deceased by accident.

The witnesses for the prosecution gave evidence.

Dr. Ho Kai addressed the jury at some length on behalf of prisoner. He contended that it had not been proved beyond reasonable doubt that prisoner was the only man who was fighting with deceased, or that it was he who delivered the fatal blow, but if the jury thought deceased was fighting with prisoner and thus got the blow which caused his death he submitted that it would be a case of manslaughter.

His Lordship having summed up the jury found prisoner guilty of murder, but recommended him to mercy.

His Lordship passed sentence of death in the usual way.

21st November.

THE "WHITE CLOUD" CASE.

Arthur Myrvin Raymond, who was charged with taking an unseaworthy ship to sea, pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. C. A. H. Westerbarger, Walter King, J. H. Oxberry, W. O. C. Spelkaver, A. Walker, J. H. Underwood, and C. G. Engel.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney General), instructed by Mr. Bowley (Acting Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), for the defence.

On the application of Mr. Francis, defendant was allowed a seat outside the dock.

Mr. Pollock said defendant in this case was charged that he "on the 8th day of September, 1899, in Victoria Harbour, in the waters of this colony, being then master of a British ship, to wit, the steamship *White Cloud*, did unlawfully and knowingly take the said ship to sea in such an unseaworthy state that the lives of divers persons, to wit the officers and crew of such ship, were likely to be thereby then endangered." That prosecution was instituted under sub-section 2 of section 11 of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance of 1891 which ran as follows:—"Every Master of a British or Colonial ship who knowingly takes the same to sea in such unseaworthy state that the life of any person is likely to be thereby endangered shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, unless he proves that her going to sea in such unseaworthy state was under the circumstances reasonable and justifiable, and for the purpose of giving such proof he may give evidence in the same manner as any other witness."The evidence in this case would show that the steamship *White Cloud* was a wooden ship sheathed with copper built over 20 years ago; that she was of a class which was ordinarily known as river steamers; and that she had been exclusively used in river traffic, that was to say, either on the run between Hongkong and Macao or the run between Macao and Canton, and vice versa; and that for the last six years or upwards she had been employed solely upon the run between Canton and Macao and back again, which he understood was a more sheltered trip so far as the sea was concerned than the trip between Hongkong and Macao. She was surveyed for a passenger certificate by Mr. Dixon, Government Marine Surveyor, in September, 1893, and Mr. Dixon would tell the jury that in his opinion even at that time the *White Cloud* was not the sort of boat to send to sea. Besides Mr. Dixon, Mr. Ramsey, who also had experience as an engineer, would be called, and he would tell the jury that the *White Cloud* was a river steamer and was not the class of boat which ought to be sent to sea across to Manila, or even to Swatow, at all events in the month of September, when there was some danger of encountering typhoons. The *White Cloud* was sold to her present owner, Mr. Robinson—who, he might mention, had been absent from the colony for over two months past—on the 8th August, this year. The bill of sale was dated the 31st August, and the transfer was actually registered in the Harbour Office on the 2nd September. She put to sea upon the voyage which formed the subject of that prosecution on the 8th September, about four o'clock in the afternoon. She was carrying no passengers, but she had on board a captain, a chief officer, two European engineers, and some Chinese firemen and stokers. It would appear from the evidence of Mr. Adamson, the chief engineer, that very shortly after the boat had left the harbour—that was to say, before midnight on the same day—she began to leak. It appeared that she met a kind of roll of the sea outside and began to leak. Her seams began to open out and the sea came in through the seams. In consequence, somewhere about 11 o'clock the same night, at the request of Mr. Adamson, the chief officer put the ship's head to wind in order to facilitate the pumping of the water out of the ship. After a certain amount of water had been pumped out of the ship the chief engineer turned in about midnight; but he was called again about an hour afterwards, when he found a lot of water in the ship about the stoke-hold plates, 30 inches above the bottom bilge. He found that the second engineer had already started to pump at a hand pump. Then the bilge injection was put on to work and that stopped the water pouring in. However, only a few hours afterwards, about six o'clock in the morning, a starboard plank was stove in and the water ran right across the ship from starboard to port. The fire was put out by about a quarter to seven in the morning. Defendant then said that the ship must be abandoned. Accordingly the ship was abandoned somewhere about half past seven.

So the jury saw, they would have it in evidence, that within eight hours of the vessel leaving the harbour she was leaking, and within 12 hours of her leaving the harbour she had to be abandoned altogether. Therefore he thought the jury would be satisfied, upon the evidence of the chief engineer and the second engineer, that the *White Cloud* did leave this port in an unseaworthy condition. It was true she encountered a certain amount of swell outside. There was a certain roll in the sea, but there was no typhoon on, and there was nothing which could have caused an ordinary seaworthy ship to leak in this way. It would no doubt be urged for the defence that there was not sufficient proof that defendant knowingly took the ship to sea in an unseaworthy condition. Of course the only way by which they could judge of defendant's state of mind was by the light of their commonsense. The question they had to put to themselves would be whether such facts must have been known to defendant as an experienced master, having knowledge of the condition of this coast, as would have inclined him to think that it would be a risky thing to take the *White Cloud* to Manila in the month of September. If looking at the matter as a whole they came to the conclusion that it must have been evident to defendant as an experienced mariner that it was a dangerous thing to take the ship across to Manila in the month of September, then he would submit they would be perfectly justified in finding that defendant did knowingly take the ship to sea in such an unseaworthy state that the lives of the officers and crew were likely to be endangered. It was open to defendant to go into the witness box and give evidence. No doubt any evidence he might give which would go to show that he took certain precautions and made certain enquiries and that as the result of those enquiries he came to the conclusion that it would be a reasonable and proper thing to take the ship over to Manila would have every consideration.

The evidence for the prosecution given at the Magistrate's was repeated.

Mr. Francis said he had no evidence to call, and he would submit to his lordship in the first place that there was no evidence whatever to go to a jury to show—assuming that it was admitted that the vessel was taken to sea in an unseaworthy condition and in such a state that the lives of those on board were likely to be endangered—any knowledge on the part of defendant that the vessel was in that condition, that she was in fact unseaworthy, and that if taken to sea she was likely to endanger the lives of those on board. All the evidence which had been given before the court that day was confined to the state of the vessel herself, and there was no evidence whatever to show defendant had any knowledge, or any means of getting that knowledge, of her state and condition. There was nothing from which the jury could infer knowledge on his part. The chief engineer said he made an examination of the 40ft. of his own particular compartment and could see nothing which attracted his attention and which could induce him to believe that the vessel was in an unseaworthy state or that her seams were likely to open as soon as she got into the least roll of the sea. According to the Ordinance, there was a clear offence on the part of the owner of the vessel whether he sent the vessel to sea in an unseaworthy state knowingly or unknowingly, but a master was in a totally different position, being only considered culpable in the eyes of the law if he did it knowingly. He asked his Lordship to rule that there was no case to go to a jury on the point of knowledge.

His Lordship said he was not prepared to say that there was no evidence that defendant knew the vessel was unseaworthy—that was, to say, not fit for a voyage to Manila—because he was an experienced mariner. He had been in charge of vessels for years in the China seas. He knew that September was a typhoon month. They had the fact that this was an old river steamer. Defendant could not have been all these years here without knowing that the *White Cloud* was an old Macao to Canton boat, and he was not on the whole inclined to stop the case.

Mr. Francis suggested that the court should adjourn at that point, if it was not proposed to finish the case that evening, in which event he was prepared to address the jury.

His Lordship and Mr. Pollock announced their willingness to finish the case that day.

Mr. Francis then said there could be no question—after the event they were all very wise—that the *White Cloud* when she went to sea from Hongkong on the 8th September last was not seaworthy. It also necessarily followed that they must admit that, being so unseaworthy when she left Hongkong the lives of the people who were on board were likely to be endangered. There was no question at all about it that defendant did as master take the vessel to sea and that he took her to sea in an unseaworthy condition. That had been proved by the event, and the only question for their consideration was this: did defendant take the vessel to sea knowing that she was in an unseaworthy condition, so unseaworthy as probably to endanger the lives of those who were embarked on board her? There was no direct evidence at all that he knew her age or when she was built or of what material she was built or how she was fastened, what her strength was, and what her then condition was. There was not one tittle of evidence which showed he was ever on board her before he went on board as master, or that he ever had anything to do with her before. There was no evidence to show he examined her and on examination found her planks rotten, her fastenings insecure, or that there was anything to cause him to doubt for a moment her perfect sufficiency to go to sea. The jury would be asked to infer that defendant as a master mariner with considerable experience ought to have known the moment he cast his eyes on her and the moment he heard what vessel it was he was wanted to take over to Manila, without being told by anyone, without inspecting her and without having her inspected—that he ought to have necessarily inferred from her external appearance that she was necessarily unseaworthy and unfit to take on a three days' trip from here to Manila. The jury were asked to infer that defendant ought to have known this as a master mariner. What happened to the vessel? The chief engineer said he went on board the vessel on the 4th September, when she was at Yaumati. He found the engines in perfectly good condition. The boilers were a little thin, but nothing happened to them, so that that question did not come in. The two engineers made an examination of their department, and they suspected or believed that the boilers were not sufficiently secure, and that if the vessel got into a heavy sea or if she began to roll the boilers might get out of their places, and they got long banks of wood for the purpose of holding the boilers steadily in their places. But what he wanted to call their attention to was this, that in doing so they had necessarily to see clearly the sides of the vessel, her timbers, and frame and planking, and they saw nothing about the vessel which suggested to them that there was anything weak or unsatisfactory or unsafe about the hull of the vessel. Let the jury bear in mind what had been said as to the frame of the vessel. The sponsons projected eight or nine feet at the broadest part beyond the sides of the vessel, but they were part of the frame of the vessel. They rested on beams which went across from side to side and were heavily secured. They were not eight or nine feet in width the whole way but only in one part, tapering off gradually. The jury knew perfectly well that typhoons were signalled telegraphically to them from Manila. They had no evidence, and no evidence had been given, as to the state of the weather, but of one thing they might be certain, and that was that had there been any typhoon signalled from the Philippines or from the Meteorological Observatory here, or any indication in the harbour which Captain Raymond was bound to know of any bad weather in the China seas at the time the prosecution would certainly have brought it to their notice; it would have been a most important element in the case which the prosecution would not have failed to bring before the jury. So they might take it that at the time Captain Raymond went to sea on the 8th September there was no bad weather; there was no evidence of approaching bad weather; no approaching typhoon had been signalled; and that, therefore, he was entitled to count upon the northwest

monsoon weather, which meant light winds and a smooth sea between here and Manila. During the last few months steam-launches had gone across in perfect safety. He perfectly admitted that the *White Cloud* was not a sea-going steamer, but a sea-going steamer meant a vessel that habitually went to sea and had to chance whatever weather she had to meet, and in that sense of the word the *White Cloud* was unseaworthy for long voyages and steady and permanent employment at sea. But the question was, was she unseaworthy for a short voyage as the weather then was? It was absurd to say that because she was a river barge boat with projecting sponsons she was unseaworthy, because, as admitted by two witnesses, all the older steamers on this coast and the Yangtze River steamers had paddle wheels and sponsons, and they came out round the Cape from the United States, where they were built, so that the mere fact of a vessel having sponsons did not necessarily mean that she was unfit for a long voyage at sea or was unseaworthy. In conclusion Mr. Francis submitted that there was no evidence to induce the jury to return a verdict against defendant, and he asked them with confidence to say that Captain Raymond was not guilty.

Mr. Pollock having addressed the jury on some of the points raised in Mr. Francis's address.

His Lordship summed up.

The jury retired at ten minutes to five to consider their verdict, returning after an absence of about ten minutes.

The Clerk—Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon your verdict?

The Foreman—We have.

The Clerk—How say you, do you find defendant guilty or not guilty?

The Foreman—Not guilty.

The Clerk—Are you unanimous?

The Foreman—We are.

His Lordship—Defendant is discharged.

22nd November.

RETURNING FROM BANISHMENT.

Lau Sau Wang, who was charged with disobeying an order of banishment, pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. J. M. P. Tavaras, J. H. Oxberry, W. B. Walker, Wong Kiam, Kio Choh, Vahab Curram, and P. McEller.

Prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Another Chinaman named Chu Shing was similarly dealt with for a like offence.

ROBBERY AT ABERDEEN.

Leung Fuk was charged with robbery with one or more persons at Aberdeen on the 5th October. He pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. J. M. P. Tavaras, V. C. C. Herbst, F. X. de Rosario, T. D. Donaldson, La Kio Choh, Wong Koo Sun, and Vahab Curram.

Mr. Pollock said prisoner was charged that he with two other persons made an assault upon Pun Leung Po and committed a robbery. Complainant would tell the jury that he was employed at the Dairy Farm at Aberdeen, having charge of the cowshed. At ten o'clock on the night of the 5th Oct. he was lying down in his house when three men came in, pushing open the door, which had not been fastened. Complainant got up from from his bed, and one of the men struck him on the head with a book, another man taking a griddle and tying him in front of him. The man who had struck him with the book took complainant's watch, which was hanging on the wall and tied it round complainant's head while another gagged him. There was with complainant in the house his wife, who called out "Save life." One of the men told her not to cry, or he would kill her. One of the men asked complainant where his money was. Complainant said he had none, and upon the man exclaimed, "If you don't have any, I'll kill you." Then one of the men went to the house called out something, and the other two followed. The man who had gagged him took the griddle and tied the complainant's hands and feet, and then removed the gag. He found in the door near his bed a tin containing something, and the robbers had taken it. He said the purpose of temporarily gagging him was

in the house. Complainant reported the matter at the Aberdeen Police Station. Sergeant Langley came and examined the premises, and found that among other things missing was a clock. Neither complainant nor his wife could identify any of the three men, but fortunately Sergeant Langley sent a telephone message round to the other Police Stations, and as the result of that message Inspector McLennan went out with two Chinese constables on to Pokfulam Road, and waited there. At about a quarter of an hour after midnight they saw prisoner coming along the road. They stopped him and found a clock fastened round his body next to his skin, which clock had been identified as the one stolen from prosecutor. They also found upon prisoner tools which could be used for prising open doors. It would appear that there were some marks upon one of the doors in complainant's house which seemed to show that some weapon had been used to prise the door open. When charged the following morning prisoner admitted having stolen the clock from complainant's house.

The evidence for the prosecution was given. Prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. During the first week of his imprisonment he will receive twenty strokes with the birch.

His Lordship commended Inspector McLennan for the promptness and zeal he had displayed, which had resulted in the apprehension of the prisoner and the recovery upon him of some of the stolen articles.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A CHINESE CONSTABLE.

Chan, Ut, a constable in the Hongkong Police Force, was charged with (1) offering a bribe to a public servant with a view to incline him to omit to do an act contrary to his duty, and (2) offering a bribe to a public servant with a view to influence his conduct. He pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. Maxwell Watson, W. G. Winterburn, B. S. Judah, J. M. Marques, W. C. C. Spatchkaver, H. E. Wilmer, and C. G. H. Westerburger.

Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Bowley, Acting Crown Solicitor, appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Melbourne for the defence).

Mr. Slade said prisoner was charged with attempting to bribe another Chinese constable named Ng Chenng. Prisoner was in the Aberdeen division, and for some months prior to this occurrence he had been put on special duty with a view to suppressing gambling houses. During the month of August he was relieved by another man, and during the month he was away three gambling houses were discovered. Subsequently prisoner was put on special duty again for the suppression of gambling, and while he was back there was no gambling discovered or reported. On the 17th October he approached Ng Chenng, who was a constable on a beat which was within the area for which prisoner was detailed for special duty, and offered him 20 cents a day if he would not tell the Inspector about a gambling house, which he proposed to start. The constable would say that he thought the matter over and consented, but whether it was a real consent or not they did not know. At any rate when he got back to the Police Station that night after his duty was finished he reported the occurrence to the Inspector in charge, with the result that prisoner was subsequently arrested.

The evidence for the prosecution was given. Prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

The Spanish Transatlantic Company has decided to abandon the mail service that was established between Manila and Singapore, in conjunction with the French Messageries, to carry the mail between Spain and the Philippines, in virtue of its old contract with the Spanish Government. The steamer *Union* of the Compagnie Generale de Tránsito de Filipinas, which has hitherto been employed on this service, left Manila last week for Singapore with the mail on board, on her final trip as a chartered mail steamer. *Manila Times.*

THE GOVERNORS TRIP UP THE WEST RIVER.

On Wednesday morning H. E. the Governor and party returned to the Colony in the Three Companies' steamboat *Wuchow*, after a very pleasant trip to Wuchow and back.

The party (comprising His Excellency the Governor and Lady Blake, Miss Blake, Mr. M. Blake, and Viscount Suidals, H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia, Capt. von Witalob, and Capt. Lieut. Hentze) left here on Friday evening last in the steamboat *Wuchow*, Captain R. D. Thomas, conveyed by H.M.S. *Sandpiper* and No. 36 torpedo boat. Delightful weather was experienced throughout the voyage, both there and back, and the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by the party, who were greatly interested in what they saw and much pleased with the arrangements made for their comfort on the little steamer, while the presence of pirates along the river served, as Lady Blake remarked, to infuse a spice of excitement to the voyage.

H. E. Sir Henry Blake was much struck with the beauty of the scenery, and also with the volume of trade carried on this magnificent waterway by native craft. He also noted with some surprise the number of passenger boats towed by steam-launches. His Excellency was also much interested in the working of the Customs and likin services and the manner in which the collection of these duties conducted. He also remarked upon the absence of lights and buoys to mark the various dangers in the river.

At Wuchow the Prefect Yen and the District Magistrate called on the Governor and party, and the shore was lined with flags when the steamer arrived and a guard of soldiers drawn up to receive them. The distinguished visitors landed on Sunday morning and walked through the city and were pleased to remark the civil and friendly disposition of the natives. In the afternoon a picnic was arranged, and they proceeded up the river Fu-ho in a *Ha-tote* boat towed by a steam-launch, which proved a very pleasant excursion. On Monday morning the party again visited the city, and explored the shops, making several purchases of native products. A very large fine theatre had been erected on the banks of the Fu-ho in celebration of a native festival, and this was inspected, the interior being really most handsomely decorated with featherwork made of the plumage of the kingfisher, estimated to be worth several lakhs of dollars.

The steamer left Wuchow on Monday at 2.30 p.m. and had a fine run down to Shikung in perfect weather, and let go off that city at 11.30 p.m. On Tuesday H.R.H. Prince Henry left the *Wuchow* and proceeded in the *Sandpiper* to Canton. The Governor and party left the ship at 6 a.m. to visit the Marble Rocks and Carvern, with which they were greatly interested, and were they also in the extensive and ancient Buddhist Temple [recently so fully described in our columns by "R.C.W."]. They then climbed to the summit of one of the Rocks, ascending 370 steps and then scrambling up the remaining sixty feet. A very fine view was obtained from this peak, seven pagodas being visible, while the entrance to the Shikung Gorges and a peculiar hill with three small conical erections (like chimneys) on its crest are prominent objects. The *Wuchow* left Shikung at 10 a.m., and the passage down was effected under the same pleasant conditions.

DEATH OF THE REV. DR. CHALMERS.

We much regret to learn of the death of the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, of the London Missionary Society, news of which has been received from Chemulpo, where he was visiting his son, Mr. J. L. Chalmers, of the Korean Customs. His age was seventy-five. Arriving in China when a young man, Dr. Chalmers had spent the whole of the remainder of his life in Canton and Hongkong, with the exception of brief home furloughs, and was zealously devoted to his work. His sterling character commanded universal respect both amongst Europeans and Chinese, and those who enjoyed the privilege of his more intimate acquaintance entertained for him the warmest affection. His reputation as a Chinese scholar was world-

wide and his Chinese Dictionary is a monument of erudition. Dr. Chalmers went home two years ago after the death of his wife. Returning by the Canadian route he had the misfortune to be a passenger across the Atlantic by the ill-fated steamer *Sackman*, and, although no details of the cause of his death have been received, there can be little doubt that the hardships and privation to which with his fellow passengers he was subjected in connection with his shipwreck must have affected a constitution on which old age was already beginning to tell. He was well enough, however, to continue his journey, and was visiting his son prior to coming on to Hongkong. His many friends in this colony will be greatly grieved that he should have been cut off before completing his journey, and that they have not been permitted once more to see his genial face.

The body, we understand, is to be brought to Hongkong for interment.

THE WRACK OF THE "CHARLESTON."

PROBABLY A TOTAL LOSS.

ALL HANDS SAVED.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 14th November.

The U.S. cruiser *Charleston*, Captain Pigman, was wrecked at six o'clock on the morning of the 2nd November, about eighteen miles off the north coast of Luzon. All hands were saved, but it is feared that the crack cruiser will be a total loss.

The vessel had been patrolling the east and northern coast of Luzon for several days and was returning to Manila to coal, when she struck an uncharted rock and sank rapidly. Fifty fathoms of water are under the stern, but only twenty feet were under the bow. As soon as she struck it was evident from the sudden filling of the lower compartments that it would be impossible to keep her afloat, and preparations were immediately made for abandoning her. The captain gave orders for the manning of the boats as though for a landing party, and each man took his gun, equipments, and ten days' half rations, and went through the ordinary drill of landing without the least confusion.

The performance reflects the utmost credit on the excellent discipline and training which has come to be associated with the U.S. Navy.

As the boats pulled off the bow was still above water impaled on the rocks, but as a swift current was running it is very likely that she is now on the bottom. The men rowed eighteen miles to Camaguin and Pont islands, where they landed in safety and formed a camp which they intrenched against possible attack. With the crew of 335 persons including officers, were 134 rifles, two Colt's automatic guns, and a gatling, so they are comparatively safe. The natives were found to be friendly, but in order to avert danger Captain Pigman had the island searched and all the native boats were captured, thus preventing communication with the mainland.

Lieutenant Macdonald with six men was sent in a sailing launch to attempt to reach Manila or meet some vessel which would send relief. Four perilous days were spent in stormy weather along the north-west coast of Luzon and on the fifth day out the U.S. transport *Adie* was sighted coming out of Lingayen Gulf. She towed the shipwrecked men up toward San Fabian, where the battleship *Oregon* was co-operating with the landing of General Wainwright's troops. The *Oregon* took the men aboard and signalled to the *Adie* to proceed at once to the scene of the disaster. By this time the survivors are on their way to Manila.

The *Charleston* had just been fitted out with her full supply of stores and ammunition, and this, with the cost of the vessel, will bring the loss up to about \$2,000,000 gold currency.

We learn that our information that the body of another soldier—supposed to be that of Private Jones—had been found at Wuchow on Monday is not correct. It seems likely that the body was found. It is believed that Jones was killed here and his body found.

THE AMERICANS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

ZAMBOANGA OCCUPIED.

On Wednesday the British steamer *Hinsang*, of which Captain Crockett is master, arrived in the harbour and the Captain reported to Consul-General Wildman that the important City of Zamboanga, to the south of the Philippine Archipelago was in the occupation of the Americans. Zamboanga is a most important strategic point; was the last place held by the Spaniards after the Treaty of Paris, and is where all the Spanish troops went on the evacuation of Cebu and Iloilo.

It seems that on the 16th inst. the *Hinsang* was passing Zamboanga when the American flag was noticed floating over the town and the natives were observed firing salutes. Then a file of marines were seen to leave the U.S. gunboat *Castine*, which is in command of Captain S.W. Very, and land. The natives were evidently overjoyed on seeing the marines and showed their joy by resuming their salutes.

Suddenly the *Castine* fired a shot across the bows of the *Hinsang*, which was stopped and went full speed astern. A boat came up from the *Castine* and the officer in charge requested Captain Crockett to take a telegram on to Hongkong for transmission to Admiral Watson at Manila notifying the occupation of Zamboanga and asking for assistance. It seems that the natives rebelled against Aguinaldo's forces and drove them out, taking possession of the town themselves. When the *Castine* came into the harbour they raised the American flag and asked formally to be taken under the protection of the American Government.

The *Castine* is a gunboat of eight guns. Her tonnage is 1,117 and her horse-power 1,119.

MR. HEYMANS' CONCERT.

The St. Andrew's Hall was well filled on Saturday evening when Mr. J. F. Heymans and several amateurs who kindly assisted him provided an excellent vocal and instrumental concert. The chief numbers on the programme were the violin solos by Mr. Heymans, who had already given evidence of his skill at the short recital in St. John's Cathedral on the previous Sunday. On this last occasion Mr. Heymans was enabled to give a more varied and lengthy selection from his repertoire and he soon established himself to the critical as a musician of considerable ability. His interpretation was artistic and his technique masterly in each piece, the whole comprising a most varied assortment of music. In the opening number, "Adagio Cantabile," Mr. Heymans was accompanied by Mr. Ward at the organ and Mr. Lammert at the piano, and the trio was much appreciated. Mr. C. H. Grace, who was in splendid voice then delighted the audience with Sargeant's "Blow, blow, thou winter wind" in style and tone that were most refreshing. Seldom have we heard the song so well sung. In a fantasia from de Beriot's "Scene de Ballet" Mr. Heymans gave abundant evidence of his remarkable powers of execution. The piece was well chosen, seeming to be a favourite with the artist and most suitable to his style. The player received prolonged applause, but did not give a repetition. Mrs. Vallings shared with Mr. Grace the vocalistic honours of the evening, and her rendering of the song "Last Night" was correct and pleasing. The audience demanded an encore and Mrs. Vallings returned and sang her old favourite "O, whistle an' I'll come tae ye my lad," which seems to please the audience more and more each time she sings it. Mr. Emil Dannenburg was applauded for his careful rendering of the "Tannhauser" fantasia on the pianoforte, as was also Mr. Van Nierop for his song: "An old love dream." In the solos "Legende (Wienlawski)" and "Le Reve" (Goltermann) Mr. Heymans was heard at his best, his rendering being sympathetic and extremely artistic. He was accompanied at the piano by Mr. Ward in each piece, the piano being not intrusive but just affording the deeper shade of tone necessary to bring out to the full the beauty of the music at the violin. In these two pieces Mr. Heymans did justice to his ability, and this was recognized by the audience, who accorded him much applause. Messrs. Lammert and Ward

performed two duos, the former at the piano and the latter at the organ. This item was not much of a success, which was not due to the fault of the players, as the ability of both is too well recognised for that, but the tones of the grand piano—a remarkably fine instrument—scarcely harmonised with an enlarged edition of a harmonium. Mr. Ward was out of place at such an instrument, and as the Cathedral organ could not be impressed, a second piano would have sounded better. Mrs. Vallings sang Schubert's "Heiden-Röslein," most artistically and being recalled delighted the audience with her winsome rendering of the old Scotch song "Melville-Castle." Mr. C. H. Grace was also recalled for his spirited singing of "The song of Hybris," the Cretan, and gave the "Yeoman's wedding song." The entertainment was brought to a conclusion by the trio of two violins and pianoforte—Messrs. Heymans, Schröter, and Ward—of a pretty and simple Bohemian Dance. During the evening Mr. Ward accompanied the vocalists, and as he took part in every number he deserves much of the praise due to the success of the concert. We hope, with many of our readers, to be able to hear Mr. Heymans again.

PIRACY IN THE CANTON WATERS.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 20th November.

On the 4th inst. the British steam-launch *Wing Son*, while towing a junk laden with limes from Canton to Fa Yui, in Panyu district, saw on the shore at Kipshek a number of pirates, who hailed her and threatened that if she did not stop and pay the customary squeeze they would fire upon her. The Captain disregarded the threat, went full speed ahead, and got away without further unpleasantness.

On the 7th inst. a steam-launch named the *Lee Yui*, bound from Canton to Taipingaha, in the Namhoi district, also saw a crowd of pirates on shore, who fired at her. In this case the captain turned round and steamed back to Canton.

On the same day a launch from Shuihing to Canton steamed at full speed past a gang of pirates on shore, and got safely through, though she was within range of the pirates' fire while passing.

On account of the frequency of piracy rendering the transit of cargoes difficult and dangerous trading vessels are stopping running, and are about to present a petition to the Canton Commissioner of Customs requesting him to lay the circumstances before the Viceroy.

The price of goods is increasing daily in consequence of the piratical attacks and the difficulty and danger of sending cargoes from place to place. There are said to be between seventy and eighty piratical craft infesting the waterways of Canton, each carrying from thirty to sixty men and all well armed. Their principal places of resort are Kolam, Tai-o, Nampong, and Tinpak.

POSTAL FACILITIES AT THE WEST RIVER PORTS.

The following correspondence has been forwarded to us for publication by Mr. R. Chatterton Wilcox, Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

THE CHAMBER TO THE POSTMASTER

GENERAL,
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 15th November, 1899.

Dear Sir,—Will you be so good as to inform this Chamber what postal facilities there are in the West River Ports, whether letters can be registered, and whether any money order system exists?—Yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Capt. Hastings, R.N., Postmaster General,
THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL TO THE CHAMBER.

General Post Office,
Hongkong, 15th November 1899.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of even date.

There are Imperial Chinese Post Offices at Wuchow, Kongmoon and Samshui (the latter only recently opened).

There is no exchange of Money Orders with Chinese Offices. Correspondence can be registered for the above named places.

The service is tri-weekly as advertised in the Mail Notices. In addition four vessels with Chinese Masters ply on the river, but as the Officer at Samshui notifies that "Owing to the present insecurity on the West River Registered Mail Matter will only be transmitted by steamers carrying Foreign Officers," this office will do the same, viz., despatch registered mail by the European Officer craft only, viz., the *Wuchow*, *Samshui*, and *Saikong*.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. C. H. HASTINGS,
Postmaster-General.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

21st November.

The table-talk of the last few days has been quite prolific with topics of more than ordinary interest. We have had the news—from London—of the "storming" and capture (a bloodless one) of Aguinaldo's stronghold, one of his many, doubtless, which only an American paper can do justice to in the matter of descriptive headings. The American soldiers, who have been waiting months through a monotonous wet season for a decent stand-up fight, have been again disappointed. They have the sympathy of many of their fighting confreres in Hongkong.

Then we have had learned advice on the meteoric showers, which, alas, did not come off, unless a few solitary shooting stars be enough to swear by. With due deference to the opinion of the Rev. Père Froo, the erudite Father who runs things meteorological on the China coast, the best place to see the meteoric showers is undoubtedly Ladysmith on a warm evening. There they are much in evidence and continually falling.

Then a public-spirited gentleman, who evidently has the theory of the world's salvation at his finger-ends, has come all the way from home to depict the second coming of the Messiah. The book of Revelations is amply sufficient for the purpose of the ordinary individual, but Mr. Clayton presents a revised version of apocalyptic visions.

Then a telegram informs us that Dr. Tanner, the eloquent member of the Irish party, whose speeches are always rich with apt illustrations, traduces the fighting quality of the British soldier, and is promptly knocked down by an indignant private, affording his audience another of his remarkable illustrations, though considering the way Tommy Atkins has fought in the war so far, heaven only knows what illustration the worthy doctor could want. But he found one, and closer than he expected.

Lastly, we have the marriage of missisecum-cook, which has outraged the feelings and respectability of the Canton community. Concerning that same "ill-assorted marriage," I find that my comrade views it rather with favour. Quite so! His only objection is that the fair lady should have married some one higher—"a much more biggee man" than a cook. Even the opinion of not a few foreign missionaries included, probably amounts to the same. But in defence of the lady it may be argued that far greater persons have married their menials, cooks included; and in China it is not wise to trifle with the affections of one's cook. True, it is laid down in the Prayer Book that a woman may not marry her grandfather or her grandmother's husband, but there is no stipulation that a missionary who feels so disposed may not marry her Chinese cook, believing in her religion that all are equal. In the abstract of course this principle is very comforting, but in practice it can hardly be expected to meet with any approbation—excepting the cook's—and consequently her fellow missionaries are righteously indignant. Similar indignation broke forth in a Shanghai paper recently, when a strong-minded young missionary in discussion would permit in marrying a celestial convert. There the suggestion

was made that the lady missionary's salary should be dropped and her intended would be unable to maintain her, but without avail. The marriage came off, and will presumably do so in this case, even though it should throw back considerably missionary work in that district.

The following note from the *Outlook* is worth reprinting:—The War Office is on its trial; and so is the war machinery of the scattered Empire of which it is the centre. How will it bear the test? Never yet has any army organisation in the world been called upon to mobilise, transport, and keep 70,000 men in fighting condition 7,000 miles away. Never before have we attempted to mobilise our army as it is now being mobilised. What we did in the Anglo-Russian political tension of 1879 and in the days of the Egyptian campaign of 1882 is not comparable with what is being done to-day in placing a field force in South Africa. This field force is composed firstly of an army corps, which in the present case consists of 34,000 men; secondly of a cavalry division, and in this case 5,000 men; and thirdly of lines of communication, in this case 10,000 men. Add to these the other forces in the field and you have 70,000 men charged with the occupation of half a continent, and accompanied by ammunition, rifles, machine-guns, clothing, war balloons, motor cars, bicycles, and Röntgen ray apparatus; tinned rations for the body and selected tracts for the spirit; to say nothing of horses and mules and their fodder, both collected from the four corners of the earth. Here the War Office has in hand a giant task, and though the work is not yet half done, and in this imperfect world we must not expect perfection, we believe Lord Lansdowne, Lord Wolseley, and their co-workers will justify the confidence placed in them at this critical moment. One thing we may confidently expect Her Majesty's Government to do, and that is to give the fighting machine of the Empire an opportunity of proving its efficiency to cope with even a greater crisis than any now within sight. Every battalion of infantry from the home forces sent to South Africa will, we hope and believe, be replaced by a militia battalion, where possible of the same territorial regiment, that there may be no gaps and no halting in our army organisation.

Many people will be glad to see the appointment of Sir Charles Warren to the command of the last division for South Africa. Sir Charles knows South Africa, thoroughly, having seen a good deal of service there. He will be best remembered in the Far East as the Major-General commanding the forces in Singapore. On one occasion when addressing the members of the Singapore Debating Society, in view of what he regarded as the contingencies of the future, he earnestly advised every young Englishman, if he were unable to become a Volunteer and go through a course of military training, to learn at least how to use a rifle. No doubt Sir Charles was speaking from his former experience of South Africa, where the advantage of every man being able to handle a gun, and handle it effectively, has been repeatedly emphasised, as it is also in the case of the Boers and colonial forces in the present war.

The Rifle Association affords first-class opportunities for rifle practice. It is to be regretted that the opportunities are not more largely availed of. Unfortunately the sport does not seem to appeal to any large section of the community. Even the Interport match excites but a feeble flicker of interest.

British subjects in China will gladly welcome the return of Sir Claude MacDonald to Peking, restored in health, to again assume charge of British affairs. In spite of occasional complaints over the working of certain arrangements with the Chinese, Sir Claude MacDonald has done good work in Peking, and is looked upon as a strong man, justifying his selection for that responsible though in many respects undesirable post. His presence, from all accounts, was never more needed at Peking than at the present moment. Therefore he will be doubly welcomed.

OBSERVER.

The Rand September-October clean-up was 1663 oz. gold from 2,000 tons of ore crushed.

THE HONGKONG RACE MEETING, 1900.

We have received from the Clerk of the Course the draft programme of our next Race Meeting, which will be held on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd February next. We notice that several of the Races are altered; the distance of the Foochow Cup is reduced from Two Miles to One Mile and three quarters; the Ladies' Purse is increased from Seven Furlongs to One Round, which will give the fair donors of the Purse a better view of the start than formerly; but the most important change of all is the reduction of the Champions' distance from a Mile and a half to a Mile and a quarter. Opinions seem to be divided as to the wisdom of this step; it remains to be seen whether additional interest will be attached to the Race under the altered conditions. The added money for the Champions is \$500, which will no doubt attract keen competition, while the Stewards in their liberality have not forgotten the unfortunate owners, by adding to the Consolation Race a prize of \$100 for second pony. We also notice that the gate money for visitors has been raised from \$5 to \$10 for the meeting and from \$2 to \$4 for single day tickets.

The following is the programme:—

FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY.

The WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; griffins on date of entry allowed 3 lbs.; subscription griffins of last season, non-winners, and of this season, 1899-1900, allowed 7 lbs. Half a mile.

The "VICTORIA" STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$10 each with \$250 added; second pony to receive \$50, for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

The MAIDEN STAKES; value \$400; second pony to receive \$75; third, \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. Three quarters of a mile.

The VALLEY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$200 added; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent. for subscription griffins of this season, 1899-1900; weight for inches as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

The FOOCHOW CUP; value \$250; presented by the Foochow Community; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and three quarters.

The HONGKONG DERBY; a sweepstakes of \$20 each with \$1,500 added; (half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing entries;) for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry (Saturday, 13th January, 1900); first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half. (Nominations close to the Clerk of the Course at the Club on Saturday, the 16th December, 1899.)

The LUSITANO CUP; presented by the members of the Club Lusitano; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra; subscription griffins of this season, 1899-1900, allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

The COMPADROS' CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for Subscription Griffins of this season, 1899-1900; weight for inches as per scale; winner of Valley Stakes 5 lbs. extra. Entrance \$5. One mile.

The HONGKONG CLUB CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale. Entrance \$15. One mile and a half.

The ENCOURAGEMENT STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for subscription griffins of this season, 1899-1900; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; previous winners excluded; weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY.

The SCURRY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$10 each; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7 lbs. extra. One mile.

The EXCHANGE PLATE; value \$500; presented by the Bankers and Exchange Brokers of Hongkong; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; *bona fide* griffins on date of entry allowed 5 lbs.; winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra; entrance \$10. From the two-mile post once round and in.

The GARRISON CUP; presented by the Officers of the Garrison; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7 lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

The GERMAN CUP; presented by members of the German Club; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1899-1900; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

The NAVY CUP; presented by Officers of H.M. Fleet; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 5 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 7 lbs. extra; previous non-starters to carry 12 st.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

The JOCKEY CUP; value \$150; second pony to receive \$50; for subscription ponies of any season, winners excluded; to be ridden by Jockeys who have not had a winning mount previous to this meeting in Hongkong or China; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

The FLYAWAY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; subscription ponies of any season non-winners allowed 7 lbs.; subscription ponies of any season winners allowed 3 lbs.; previous winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra. Three quarters of a mile.

The TAI YEUK FONG CUP; value \$200 presented; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; subscription griffins weight for inches as per scale, other griffins 7 lbs. extra; previous winners 7 lbs.; extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

The PROFESSIONAL CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting of one race 5 lbs. extra; of two races 7 lbs. extra; and of three or more race 10 lbs. extra; non-starters at this meeting excluded; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

The GYMKHANA STAKES; value \$200 presented by the Gymkhana Committee, added to a sweepstakes of \$5 each for subscription ponies of any season; winners and previous non-starters excluded; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent. weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

THIRD DAY, THURSDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY.

The GRAND STAND STAKES; value \$200; second pony to receive \$50 third, \$25; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; winners of one race 5 lbs. extra; of two races 7 lbs. extra; and of three or more races 9 lbs. extra; subscription griffins non-winners allowed 5 lbs.; entrance \$5. Once round.

The CHINESE CLUB CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1899-1900; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners 7 lbs. extra; penalties accumulative; entrance \$5. One mile.

The CHALLENGE CUP; presented by J. J. Bell-Irving, Esq.; value 100 guineas; for China ponies; to be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; and third, 10 per cent. of entrance fees; weight for inches as per scale; entrance (forced) \$5, but optional to subscription griffins of this season 1899-1900. One mile and three quarters.

The LADIES' PURSE; presented; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners at this meeting other than subscription griffins 7 lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs.; previous non-starters at this meeting 12 lbs. extra; entrance \$5. Once round.

The "BLACK" CHALLENGE CUP; presented by His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.; for subscription griffins of this

season, 1899-1900; to be won twice by ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners; first pony to receive 70 per cent. of the entrance fees; second 20 per cent.; third 10 per cent; weight for inches as per scale; winner of the Valley Stakes and/or German Cup 14 lbs. extra; winners of any other races 7 lbs. extra, penalties accumulative up to 14 lbs.; entrance fee \$10. One mile.

The PARSNER CUP; presented; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 5 lbs. extra; of two or more races 7 lbs. extra, unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile.

The PHAETON STAKES, value \$250; second pony to receive 70 per cent. of entrance fees; third, 30 per cent.; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting 5 lbs. extra; penalties accumulative; unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs.; subscription griffins of the season, 1899-1903, allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$5. From the two-mile post once round and in.

The CONSOLATION STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$15 added; second pony to receive \$100; for beaten China ponies at this Meeting; weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

The CHAMPION STAKES; with \$50 added; for China ponies winners at this Meeting only; a forced entry. Entrance \$2; winner of two races \$30; of three or more \$50; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

The NID DESPERANDUM STAKES, a Sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$50 added; second pony to receive \$50; Third pony \$25; for beaten subscription griffins of this season, 1899-1900 weight for inches as per scale. Half a mile.

THE INTERPORT SHOOTING MATCH.

HONGKONG WINS.

In a previous issue appeared a telegram stating that Shanghai's score in the Interport Shooting Match was 887 against 893 last year. On Saturday the Hongkong team fired and topped their last year's aggregate by 18, compiling 952 against 934. Yesterday a telegram was received from Singapore stating that the score there was 926. Hongkong has thus won the match by 26 over Singapore and 65 over Shanghai.

The Singapore telegram was in the following terms:—"Singapore nine two six (926). Congratulations Splendid win."

SATURDAY'S SHOOTING.

The umpires were—For Hongkong, Major A. Chapman, Hongkong V.C.; for Shanghai, Lieut. A. Stewart, Hongkong V.C.; for Singapore, Gunner B. W. Grey, Hongkong V.C. The marking and scoring were performed by men from the garrison.

The shooting at the first range—200 yards—was most satisfactory, the aggregate being 329 against 314 last year. Singapore's score at this range last year was 312. The aggregate for the 500 yards was again better than last year—319 against 315—but the aggregate for the 600 yards fell short of last year's by one point. The following are the scores—

200 YARDS.	Total.
Sergt.-Major Wallace, R.E.	455555—34
Inspector McLennan	545555—34
Mr. A. H. Skelton	555455—34
Capt. Carlyle, A. J. D.	554455—33
Sergt. Bowery, R. E.	555445—33
Sapper Clarke, R. E.	555445—33
Ar.-Sergt. Blair, A.O.D.	555544—33
Mr. A. Watson	455445—32
Mr. J. Marshall	554445—32
Corp. Hills, R.E.	445544—31

Total ... 329

500 YARDS.	Total.
Mr. McLennan	554555—34
Sergt.-Major Wallace	544555—33
Mr. A. H. Skelton	555445—33
Sergt. Bowery	454555—32
Sapper Clarke	355545—32
Capt. Carlyle	555354—32
Ar.-Sergt. Blair	555454—32
Mr. Watson	353555—31
Corporal Hills	334555—30
Mr. Marshall	554525—30

Total ... 319

600 YARDS.	Total.
Sapper Clarke	455545—33
Mr. Skelton	544555—33
Mr. J. Marshall	554545—33
Mr. McLennan	455355—32
Sergt. Bowery	545445—32
Capt. Carlyle	553555—31
Ar.-Sergt. Blair	425355—29
Sergt. Wallace	545543—28
Mr. A. Watson	555343—28
Corp. Hills	504552—25

Total ... 304

AGGREGATES.	200	500	600	Ttl.
Mr. A. H. Skelton	34	33	33	100
Mr. McLennan	34	34	32	100
Sapper Clarke	33	32	33	98
Sergt. Bowery	33	32	32	97
Capt. Carlyle	33	32	31	96
Mr. J. Marshall	32	30	33	95
Sergt.-Major Wallace	34	33	28	95
Ar.-Sergt. Blair	33	32	29	94
Mr. A. Watson	32	31	28	91
Corporal Hills	31	30	25	86

Grand Totals ... 329 319 304 952

THE RECORD OF THE MATCHES.

The following is the complete record of the matches:—

1889, Shanghai 819, Singapore 777, Hongkong 774.

1890, No match.

1891, Hongkong 867; Shanghai 830, Singapore 741.

1892, Hongkong 835, Shanghai 810, Singapore 752.

1893, Hongkong 822, Shanghai 802, Singapore 708.

1894, Hongkong 823, Singapore 817, Shanghai 780.

1895, Singapore 934, Shanghai 903, Hongkong 879.

1896, Hongkong 916, Shanghai 900, Singapore 870.

1897, Singapore 934, Hongkong 916, Shanghai 860.

1898, Hongkong 934, Singapore 923, Shanghai 893.

1899, Hongkong 952, Singapore 926, Shanghai 887.

From 1889 to 1894 the match was fired with the Martini-Henry Rifle; from 1895 onwards with the Lee-Metford.

Hongkong has thus won seven out of ten matches, Singapore two, and Shanghai one.

FOOTBALL.

On Monday there was a very even game between the Hongkong Football Club and an artillery team selected from the 25th Co. E.D. and the 25th Co. S.D. No goals were scored by either team, the result being a draw.

The Rugby Football match, played on Tuesday, resulted in an easy victory for the Army by 18 points to 5. In the first half Lewis got over the line twice for the Soldiers, the first place kick being unsuccessfully taken by Evans, and the second being converted by Castle. Half time—Army 1 goal, 1 try—8 points. Navy, nil. In the second half, as the result of some fine passing, Wilkinson scored another try for the Army and Castle again converted. Then the Navy had a show, Tompkinson making a brilliant run from the centre of the field, touching down right behind the goal. He took the kick himself and had no difficulty in converting. Just before time Lewis after another fine run again scored for the Army and Castle was equally successful with the place kick, securing another major point. Result, Army 8 goals, 1 try—18 points. Navy 1 goal—5 points. Lt. Castle, R.A., converted 3 goals for the Army and Private Lewis Scored 3 tries, playing splendidly throughout. Tompkinson was the best man for the Navy.

The football match between the Hongkong Club's A team and the Victoria Recreation Club, played on Wednesday, was neither brilliant nor particularly interesting. It resulted in a draw, no score being made by either side.

The Rugby match played on Thursday between the Hongkong Football Club and the Garrison attracted a large number of spectators and was a most interesting game. The sides were very well matched and throughout the play was exceedingly even and well contested. A draw,

perhaps, would have reflected the play best, but the Club managed to have it otherwise. In the first half Tompkinson got over for them and scored a try which McMurtrie succeeded in converting. This was the only score, the game resulting Club 1 goal—5 points. Garrison nil.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

BY QUIDNUNO.

20th November.

On Monday last the Royal Engineers Recreation Club's team, despite the rain, turned up to fulfil its engagement with the Hongkong Football Club, but only two or three of the home team were there to meet it. I am sure the Engineers had no particular wish to play on such miserable weather and they deserve great commendation for making the fulfilment of their engagement their first consideration. They are to be sympathized with, too, in having made the journey to Happy Valley on such an occasion to no purpose. The Club officials were undoubtedly the most to blame for the occurrence, as the fixture could easily have been postponed. The season is in its infancy as yet and there is reason to believe that there will be plenty of opportunity to play in suitable weather before its close, so it is not easy to understand this reluctance to lose a single day. A man may be a fairly enthusiastic footballer, but still draw the line at scrambling about in mud for an hour with a very fair chance of developing pneumonia as a result. Let us have reason in football as well as in other things. In England nothing short of frost or a snowstorm will prevent a match; but then we are not in England.

On Tuesday the Hongkong Football Club's Rugby team proved too much for the Royal Welch Fusiliers, the latter retiring discomfited to the extent of 3 tries to nil. Although there are not sufficient Rugby teams here to promote a competition it would not be amiss, I think, to establish a championship on the principle of the International Championship at home. If the Navy, the Garrison, and the Hongkong Football Club played off annually for the title of Champions I am confident it would increase the interest in the game.

No one expected that the game on Wednesday between the Club's A team and H.M.S. *Endymion* would be productive of high class football, but what was lacking in skill was made up in enthusiasm, and a very keen struggle was the result. The score, one goal to one, indicated very fairly the relative merits of the teams.

The Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong Football Club sends us the following fixtures:—

This afternoon on the Happy Valley the Hongkong Football Club will play the Royal Artillery under Association rules. Kick-off at a quarter past four o'clock. The Club team will be:—F. H. Kew, goal; C. H. P. Hay and B. C. M. Johnston, backs; H. W. Looker, C. T. Kew, and W. H. Howard, halves; E. J. Libeaud, H. E. Green, J. F. Noble, H. C. R. Hancock, and J. D. Danby, forwards.

On Wednesday the A team will play the Victoria Recreation Club and in this and all future matches will appear in colours. The following will play:—T. J. Wild, goal; C. H. P. Hay and H. Pinckney, backs; T. W. Hornby, S. L. Jenkins, and A. Beattie, halves; J. E. Lee, W. M. Humphreys, P. A. Cox, E. E. Deacon, and E. J. Libeaud, forwards.

On Thursday the Rugby team will play the Garrison.

On Saturday, at four o'clock, the Hongkong Football Club will play the Royal Engineers Recreation Club.

Shield ties have been arranged for every Saturday after Nov. 25 to the end of the present year.

In the first Shield tie, played on Saturday, the B Co. Royal Welch Fusiliers beat C Co. R.W.F., by eight goals to one.

In the friendly game played the same day between the team selected from the members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps and the 39th Co. R.A. the former were victorious by one goal to nil and deserved their victory. The Volunteers' team comprised Cox, Howard, and Danby, of the Hongkong Football Club, and Nash, J. Henderson, Ritchie, Wilson, R. Henderson, Lepley, Duncan, and Smille, of the Engineers' Institute Football Club.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB V. THE NAVY.

This match was played on Saturday and resulted in a victory for the Club. The following are the scores:—

THE NAVY.	
Lieut. Farie, c and b Lee	23
Mr. Franklin, run out	6
Dr. Tuck, run out	19
Lieut. Powlett, b Langhorne	44
Dr. Sheward, b Lee	10
Lieut. Reinold, c Ross, b Hancock	17
Lieut. Wood, c Vallings, b Hancock	18
Lieut. Colomb, c Hill, b Ross	30
Captain Jellicoe, not out	19
Mr. Manisty, c Hancock, b Ross	0
Mr. de Thorens, c Maidland, b Vallings	0
Extras	12

Total 193

THE CLUB.	
P. A. Cox, c Tuck, b Reinold	63
Lieut. Johnson, R.W.F., b Powlett	2
F. Maidland, c Sheward, b Manisty	81
Capt. Langhorne, c Colomb, b Farie	0
J. A. Ross, c Tuck, b Reinold	11
H. C. B. Hancock, c Farie, b Powlett	16
T. J. Wild, c Tuck, b Manisty	0
R. E. Lee, run out	4
Lieut. Hill, R.W.F., l.b.w., b Farie	8
Rev. G. B. Vallings, absent	—
E. Mast, not out	28
Extras	2

Total 217

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE NAVY.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Vallings	14	4	21	1
Ross	12	2	31	2
Hancock	13	2	43	2
Lee	11	3	4	2
Hill	8	—	16	—
Langhorne	7	—	30	1

THE CLUB.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Manisty	17	3	53	2
Powlett	9	1	34	2
Reinold	13	2	53	2
Franklin	2	—	27	—
Farie	11.3	3	39	2

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

OUTLYING GUARDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—When will the Military Authorities take into consideration the long hours which a soldier has to wait for his breakfast when on outlying guards? Now that guards mount at 9.30 a.m. he is unable to get his breakfast before 11 a.m., when the proper time should be 7.45 a.m. From the time he has his supper at 8 p.m. until the time he gets his breakfast the following morning he is fifteen hours without food. I think that some proper arrangements could be made to allow him to have his breakfast at the proper time.

T. ATKINS.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1899.

POLICE SUPERVISION OF SHOOTING PARTIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir,—I wonder if any other shooting party met with the same experience that befell me yesterday morning. A few friends and myself were going out for a "shoot" and upon our arrival at the wharf we were stopped by a constable, who demanded our shooting licence. So far so good, but the annoying part of the business now follows. Not content with the perusal of our permits the constable enquired our destination, the name of the steam launch, and actually went on board and asked the master for the name of his owners, and I believe he also asked him his name! Now, if our licences were all in order, what does it concern the police to know where we go to, the name of the launch, &c? If any one shoots within the prohibited area, there would be policemen on the spot to bring him to book. I fail entirely to see the necessity of this "new order," as we were told it was, by the constable, and instead of getting the police to watch law-abiding sportsmen, surely they could be put to some better work which would tend to the benefit of the colony at large.—Yours faithfully

WHAT NEXT?

Hongkong, 20th November, 1899.

THE STATE OF QUEEN'S ROAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—I wonder who is directly responsible for the maintenance of Queen's Road West to Central in this city. Some weeks ago the authorities commenced to remodel this road, starting from the Chinese theatre and using the new steam roller to roll in the stones. Since Monday last, however, after picking up half the road from the German Tavern for some sixty or seventy yards towards the Central Fire Station and laying down a good thick layer of metal, nothing further has been done, the steam roller has been removed elsewhere, and the stones, which were not half rolled in, are now, owing to the constant traffic along that part of the road, working up and spreading, to the great inconvenience of travellers in rickshas and damage to their rickshas. No wonder our coolies are always falling lame and suffering from cut and swollen feet! How long is this state of affairs to be allowed to continue? If the steam roller is unavailable surely some coolies with one of the old P. W. D. rollers could be employed to finish the work. Apologising for trespassing on your valuable space and enclosing my card.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

ANXIOUS ENQUIRER.

Hongkong, 23rd November, 1899.

RAUB GOLD.

The Local Secretary has received this telegram from Raub, dated 9th November, 1899.

"Crushing finished, 2,000 tons stone realized 1,668 ounces smelted gold."

The above gold return gives, on inspection, the exact amount of gold per ton as 16.68 dwts.

At £3.18 per oz the value of the last two months work is £6,505; say, about \$65,000.

The five crushes this year are as follows, the first being abnormally high:—

	1899.	tons stone.	oz. gold.	av. per ton.
Jan.-Feb.	2,484	2,944	28.7 dwts.	
Mar.-April	2,500	2,400	19.20 "	
May-June	2,450	2,100	16.7 "	
July-Aug.	2,550	1,600	12.15 "	
Sept.-Oct.	2,000	1,668	16.68 "	

Total 9,984 10,704 17.60 "

The total value of gold won since January amounts to £41,745, or, say \$410,000.

In order that these returns may be understood in relation to expenditure we may mention again that all the working charges, including depreciation and also the whole work of developing, really an addition to the value of the property, amount to some £1,500 a month.

Last year the expenditure was about £18,000, the gold return £50,000, and the profit about £30,000 on a capital of £300,000.—Singapore Free Press.

AFFAIRS AT KWANGCHAUWAN.

ANOTHER CONFLICT BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND CHINESE FORCES.

REPORTED DEFEAT OF THE FRENCH.

From the Chung Ngai San Po we learn that news has reached Canton to the effect that on the 10th and 11th inst. a battle took place between the natives of Kwangchauwan and the French forces stationed there. It is said that the natives routed the French and pursued them for some distance, the French losses being about thirty. The native losses are not stated.

Upon hearing of the affair the Viceroy on the 13th inst. despatched three gunboats with a thousand soldiers under the command of a military officer named Ng Fung-tin to restore order. The Viceroy has also wired to the Tsungli Yamen asking what steps are to be taken, as he is quite unable to carry out the delimitation to the satisfaction of the French.

We translate the following from the *Courier d'Haiphong* of the 7th November:—

The situation at Kwangchauwan is far from satisfactory. Marshal Su, who arrived from Peking with full powers from the Tsungli Yamen, has been refused the support of the Viceroy, and finally the powers with which he was formerly invested have been withdrawn, so that he can do nothing. On the other hand the Chinese authorities of the district decline

to give way, and as the Chinese regular troops at Kwangchauwan are becoming more and more arrogant and menacing, Admiral Courajolles has urgently asked for a battalion and a section of artillery. On Saturday morning 300 men of the marine infantry were despatched from Hanoi by the *Tigre* to be transhipped to the *Enticasteaux* at Along Bay. A section of artillery, eighteen mules, and two guns have also been sent from Hanoi for embarkation on the same vessel. Three hundred more men of the marine infantry from Dapcau and Dongtrien, who arrived by the *Vinh*, are also being sent to reinforce the Kwangchauwan garrison. Lieut. Colonel Marot has been appointed to the command of the troops in our new possession. The situation, far from clearing, is becoming darker and darker, and it is probable that before long the language of powder will succeed to the negotiations of diplomacy.

Another paragraph in the same paper is as follows:—A correspondent informs us that Chinese troops are being massed in Kwangai and Yunnan. It is feared that the object of their movements is to prevent the construction of the Laokai and Yunnan Railway. The situation therefore is clouding over everywhere instead of clearing and the railway question appears no more settled than that of Kwangchauwan. In presence of China's attitude it behoves our Government to act with energy. We trust they will not fail to do so.

THE JOLY INSURANCE CASE.

The case of Joly v the Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada has been tried at Shanghai by Chief Justice Sir Nicholas Hannon and a jury. The plaintiff was the widow of the late Henry Benecraft Joly, of Her Majesty's Consular Service, who died at Chemu-po on the 23rd June, 1898. The defendant Company on the 4th February 1898, entered into a contract of life insurance with the deceased for the sum of £2,500 and granted an interim receipt for six months. The defendants refused payment of the sum assured on the ground that the deceased at the time the contract was entered into concealed material facts. The hearing occupied three days.

His Lordship in summing up said that all the jury had to decide was whether Mr. Joly had at a previous time suffered from certain things and whether in his answers to certain questions contained in the application he had concealed material facts, as a consequence of which the defendants issued the interim receipt. There was no difference in the principle of maritime, fire, or life insurance. They all required the greatest good faith on the part of those who insured. It was necessary not only that the man who came to insure should tell the literal truth, but he ought to tell the whole truth absolutely and as fully as possible.

A series of questions were given to the jury to answer, and after an absence of an hour they returned the answers following:—

In reply to question 15, "Has any application to any Company ever been declined or has any other Company offered you a policy on a different plan or at a higher premium than that for which you applied," did Mr. Joly answer, "Put back 12 or 14 years ago on account of ill-health after long residence in the tropics; never reapplied; Standard home office."—He did.

Was this true?—It was not.

If not, was it untrue to the knowledge of Mr. Joly?—It must have been.

In reply to question 9c, "Have you ever suffered from any complaint or affection of the heart or blood vessels, palpitation included?" did Mr. Joly reply "No"?—He did.

Was this true?—It was not.

If not was it untrue to the knowledge of Mr. Joly?—It must have been.

In answer to question 8, "On what occasions have you consulted a physician?" did Mr. Joly reply that he had not done so for five years, not since January 19th, 1893?—He did.

Was this true?—It was not.

If not was it untrue to the knowledge of Mr. Joly?—It must have been.

Were the above statements or any of them material?—They were all material.

Were they or any of them material to the knowledge of Mr. Joly?—We cannot say they were.

Were the statements which were untrue made by Mr. Joly with the object of inducing the defendants or their agents to issue to him an interim receipt?—We think they were not.

Were the defendants or their agents influenced by the statements to grant this receipt?—They were.

Was there fraud on the part of Mr. Joly in obtaining the contract on which plaintiff is now suing?—We are not satisfied that there was.

Upon these answers leave was given to both parties to apply for judgment and the 19th inst. was the day fixed for the argument.

SETTLEMENT OF THE KIENNING CASE

The signing of the bond by which the gentry of Kienning pledge themselves to prevent further violent attacks on the Christian Church took place in the Prefect's Yamen at Kienningfu on the 25th of October. The Rev H. S. Phillips and Dr. Rigg were present and also signed the bond as witnesses to the signatures of 89 of the ward-councillors. The Prefect's arrangements were admirable and he took the opportunity of having a feast at which the missionaries were able to chat with the native literary men. The affair was a decided success and will we hope inaugurate a new and more satisfactory relationship between the missionaries and their former opponents. The idea of the bond originated with one of the native Christian workers and presented itself to those responsible for the settlement as a means of preventing further trouble which had the very great advantage of causing as little bitter feeling and resentment as possible. The native authorities are exerting themselves to settle the matter honestly and fairly on H.B.M. Consul's terms and the missionaries express themselves as well satisfied both with what has been done and with what has not been done.—*Foochow Echo*.

BRITISH AID SPANISH PRISONERS.

THE "PEACOCK" TAKES SUPPLIES TO
ALBAY PROVINCE.

Manila, 9th November.

As a result of the interviews held recently between General Otis, Admiral Watson, the Spanish and British Consuls, the President of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce, and the British gunboat *Peacock*, the Governor General stated yesterday to the Spanish Consul that permission was granted for the *Peacock* to be the bearer of supplies for the Spanish prisoners held by the insurgents in Albay and Camarines provinces.

This permission having been duly obtained both from General Otis and from Admiral Watson, the Spanish Consul held an interview with the British Consul yesterday, and the *Peacock* will probably start on her humanitarian trip a couple of days, having on board twenty thousand rations, estimated to last a month. In addition she takes two suits of clothes for each prisoner. These supplies are sent by the Spanish Military Commission, it being thought that other provisions will be sent besides from other sources.—*Manila Times*.

A CHINESE LEGAL SCANDAL.

The Shanghai quacuar papers have recently published the particulars of a legal scandal which has shocked Chinkiang society, and the Hongkong and Canton papers have reproduced the articles. The case is of interest as showing that there is such a thing as public opinion in China and that it can on occasion be exerted with some effect.

It appears that in the West Gate of the City of Chinkiang there is a silk shop named Yun Cheong, the proprietor of which is one Lao, a kindhearted and upright man. He has been successful in business and is the possessor of honorary mandarin rank of the fifth grade obtained by purchase. Of late he made the acquaintance of a Mrs. Chau Sow-lan, a prostitute, whose husband is named Sow Ngan. The latter quarrelled with his wife on account of her not complying with his demands for money, and, upon Lao interfering, took her to the guard house and lodged a charge of misconduct against her. The case in due

course came before the Magistrate, Yang Shing, who, upon hearing the evidence of the husband, ordered Lao to be arrested and brought before him. Lao, for speaking with what was deemed a want of courtesy, was ordered by the Magistrate to receive fifty strokes of the bamboo, but the lictors, knowing that Lao was a respectable man, a member of the gentry class, and an honorary mandarin, dared not inflict the punishment. The Magistrate thereupon left his judgment seat and going into the body of the court himself disrobed Lao, with the assistance of the lictors, and forcing him down, inflicted the decreed punishment, and with such severity that the skin was broken and blood drawn. After this he put the victim in prison and loaded him with chains and the cangue. This startling news frightened all the merchants and the people in general. Unfortunately, before one trouble was over another cropped up. A man named Yeang Kwai, employed in a foreign firm whose Chinese name is Cheong Shing, in Sai Woo Street, had also been in the habit of frequenting the house of Mrs. Chan Sow-lan, and the Magistrate ordered his arrest also. As he was employed in a foreign firm the police dare not enter to make the arrest, so the Magistrate went with some soldiers to make the arrest himself. It so happened that Yeang had gone out on business, and the Magistrate thereupon ordered another man named Cheong, also an employee in the same firm, to be arrested, and without any process of legal examination put him in the cangue. Upon this coming to the knowledge of one Yu, a compradore in the foreign firm Tak Cheng and a friend of Cheong, he went immediately to see the Magistrate and begged him to release Cheong on bail. Yu's language being also considered disrespectful the Magistrate ordered him to be bamboozed 1,300 strokes and had both him and Cheong flogged through the streets. This greatly enraged the public, and all the shops closed and suspended business. A Wei-yuen attached to the guard house with a military officer named Chew Kum-tong and others went about to persuade the shopkeepers and upon his representations the shopkeepers re-opened their shops and business was resumed. The gentry, together with two graduates and a delegation of the merchants, then went to the yamen of the Taotai and the Prefect and jointly presented a petition complaining of the injustice and despotic conduct of the Magistrate. The Taotai, Cheong, and Prefect, Wong, upon reading the petition were very much surprised and ordered the parties under arrest to be brought before them, but the Magistrate refused to send them. Thereupon the Taotai sent a flag bearing an Imperial order to the Magistrate and the prisoners were brought before him. After an investigation in which the innocence of the accused was demonstrated, they were immediately released. The Taotai and Prefect have sent an official report to Viceroy Liu Kun-yi, complaining of the conduct of the Magistrate in that he had punished innocent men and also raised complications with a foreign Power two of the accused being employees of American firms. The American Consul has visited the Taotai and Prefect in connection with the case and, it is said, has made a claim for Tls. 200,000 damages.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

11th November.

Dr. N. B. Dennys, formerly of the Straits Settlements and China, presently Protector of Chinese and Superintendent of Immigration here, has been appointed a member of Council. Dr. Dennys also holds the position of editor of the *British North Borneo Herald*.

It is said we are to have a visit from Mr. Angier, proprietor of the *London and China Express*, shortly, in the course of his Eastern trip. There is also some talk of a visit from Lord Brassey, early in the coming year.

A recent order issued here is to the effect that for the next twelve months no dogs from the Straits Settlements, China, and the Sulu and Philippine Islands will be permitted to land in British North Borneo territory.

Another order prohibits the exportation of arms, ammunition, or any naval or military

SEIZURE OF A BRITISH STEAMER BY THE AMERICANS.

Direct advices from Manila report that the British steamer *Labuan*, Captain H. Pfort, owned by the Sabah S.S. Co., Limited, of this port, has been seized by the U.S.S. *Castine*, at Caldera Bay, and sent to Manila in charge of a prize crew. The *Labuan* left here on the 25th ult., with clean clearance papers for Sulu and Cota Batu. Captain Pfort reports that his vessel arrived at Sulu on the 26th, where permission was sought to proceed to Cota Batu to bring away several families, the Moros having already committed a number of murders there. The Governor of Sulu could not grant the desired permission, but requested the Captain of the Port to give the *Labuan* a clearance for Masinglok, with a view to there interviewing the officer commanding the U.S.S. *Castine*. Captain Pfort left Sulu next morning, and ran into Caldera Bay the same evening, smoke having been observed in that quarter; it turned out to be the *Castine*, so the *Labuan* at once anchored. A launch from the man-of-war came alongside, and permission to go to Cota Batu was asked, and instantly refused; the Commander of the *Castine* ordering the British vessel to be seized and searched. This latter was done, but nothing incorrect could be found. Instead of allaying suspicion this only appeared to make the matter worse, and next morning the prize crew were put on board, and the ship taken to Manila, the Commander of the *Castine* absolutely refusing to consult the U.S.S. *Yorktown*, which was believed to be cruising in the vicinity. The unjustifiable seizure was immediately protested before H.B.M. Consul at Manila, but up to the present no word of the vessel's release has been received here. It may be mentioned that the *Labuan* is subsidized by the British North Borneo Government, who are seriously inconvenienced by her absence. It is to be hoped that the British Government will make immediate enquiries into this grave matter, and take steps accordingly.

HONGKONG.

H.M.S. *Iphigenia* arrived on Thursday from the North.

The French cruiser *Pascal* left on Thursday for Kwangchowwan.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. inform us that they have received a telegram from the head office of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Limited, London, stating that the shares of that Company are now quoted on the Stock Exchange.

We should think the complaint of "T. Atkins" in a letter published in another column has only to be mentioned in order to have its cause removed. To keep a man with a healthy appetite waiting for his breakfast until eleven o'clock is not quite the way to treat the soldier.

At Shanghai on the 19th inst. Captain Mongomerie and Dr. Lowson, representing Hongkong, played a golf match with Mr J. Mann and Mr. Ferrier, representing Shanghai. On the first round Hongkong were two down, but eventually they won by 2 and 1 to play.

The cases of communicable disease reported last week were one of plague and three of enteric fever, none of which proved fatal. All the enteric cases occurred in the harbour and two of them were imported from Singapore by the Italian man-of-war *Carlo Alberto*.

On the night of the 18th November Sergeant Ritchie, and a party of luktas raided the first floor of house No. 12, Yee Woo Street, and arrested 13 men engaged in playing the game of potze. Another was killed by endeavouring to escape down the smoke hole. \$33 and a potze box were found in his possession. The men arrested were brought before Mr. Gomperts and on the 17th, fined \$3 each.

For some time past a considerable quantity of chains, crosses, and wreaths have been missed from the Protestant and Roman Catholic cemeteries at Happy Valley, and in consequence a party of police were set on watch. They saw no one on the first two nights, of the watch but at about four o'clock on Friday morning 17th a man was observed busily engaged collecting chains etc. He was arrested by Sergeant Ritchie, and Mr. Gomperts sentenced him to six months' hard labour.

Thanksgiving services were held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Sunday, both morning and evening, for the cessation of the plague.

At the regular meeting of Victoria Lodge No. 1028, held on Wednesday, Bro. K. W. Mounsey was elected Wor. Master, Bro. S. H. Joseph Treasurer, and Bro. J. R. Grimbly Tyler.

At the Magistracy on Wednesday, before Mr. Gompertz, W. W. Toller, an assistant in the employ of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., was charged with embezzling \$3,825, received by him on account of his employers. Mr. Hastings appeared for him, and said that the charge was admitted. As the firm did not wish to press the case His Worship decided to deal with it summarily, and imposed a sentence of six months' hard labour.

On Monday afternoon Mr. G. J. W. King offered for sale by auction at the offices of the Public Works Department Inland Lot No. 1,570, which is situated between Macdonnell and Bowen Roads. It was bought for \$11,580 (\$80 above the upset), by Dr. G. P. Jordan who proposes erecting a residence thereon. The lot contains 37,800 square feet. The annual rent is \$398. Kowloon Marine Lot 67, which is situated near To Kwa Wan, was also offered. It was bought by Mr. A. Denison for \$7,900 (upset price \$7,800).

The *Manila Times* says:—How fortunate it is for the United States Government that Hongkong, with its big quota of steam launches, is situated within a comparatively short distance from Manila. Major Devol has had a big field to draw from and Manila is indebted to him for his good judgment in selecting such good craft as we have seen come into the bay for the Q. M. service. The latest arrival is the *On Lee*, the boat which has made three unsuccessful attempts to reach this port and failed, either on account of bad weather or the idiosyncrasies of the Chinese crews. However, the fourth attempt proved a successful voyage and the launch is now in the bay. She is not speedy, but will prove a valuable addition to the fleet of the Q. M. Department. She must be a boat of unexcelled seaworthiness when one considers the hard knocks her hull must have received from the mountainous waves of the China Sea, specially under cyclonic conditions.

In the harbour on Wednesday morning a sampan collided with a junk and was upset. The occupants, six in number, were thrown into the water and a boy seven years old was drowned. The junk sailed away without offering to render any assistance and had a Kamsing boat not appeared on the scene no doubt more lives would have been lost. One of the occupants of the sampan was a woman who had a baby on her back. The owner of the sampan was lucky enough to see the number of the junk and gave it to the police. One of the conditions attached to a junk license is that the master shall render every assistance in his power to persons drowning under a penalty of \$100 and accordingly the master of the junk was brought before the Acting Police Magistrate on Thursday morning for neglecting to do this and fined \$50, or two months, the Magistrate telling him he ought to be ashamed of himself. He also promised a reward to the owner of the Kamsing boat if he could be found.

We have received a pamphlet containing the Law for the organisation of the Bank of Taiwan, the Law of Subsidy, and the articles of association of the same Bank. The capital of the Bank is to be at least 5,000,000 yen, and its head office is to be at Taiwan, Formosa. It is authorised to issue bank notes of a face value of not less than one yen silver and it is required to keep in reserve in gold or silver a sum equivalent to the total amount of the notes issued. Besides those thus covered by the reserve the Bank may issue notes to an amount not exceeding 5,000,000 yen on the security of Government notes or bonds, convertible bank notes, or other reliable bonds or commercial instruments, but the amount of such issue must not exceed that of the issue covered by the reserve. The notes are to be legal tender for the payment of taxes within the jurisdiction of the Formosa Government. Under the law of subsidy the Government takes shares of the Bank up to an amount not exceeding 1,000,000 yen, and for the first five years the dividends on these shares are to be devoted to the reserve fund, the Government

agreeing not to sell the shares during that period.

H.M.S. *Hermione* left on Wednesday for Singapore.

H.M.S. *Barfleur* arrived on Wednesday from the North.

Admiral Seymour leaves in the *Centurion* on Monday for a visit to Siam.

There were 1,894 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 184 were Europeans.

Amended rules for the Hongkong, Straits Settlements, and Federated Malay States Cadetships are published in the *Gazette*.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 13.4, and for the Chinese community, 21.2.

Mr. Walton, M.P., who arrived from the North on 16th November, left for Canton, and the West River on the 20th. Mr. Walton has come out to study the China question on the spot.

The Hongkong correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—The City Hall is a bare, desolate, deserted, stucco structure, which in a way belongs to no one and is nobody's care. The City Hall committee, which represents the few remaining original shareholders and the subscribers, does its best, but its efforts are mainly confined to making both ends meet, to keeping the plaster fairly clean and sound (it is now being colour washed), and to fend off the ravages of white ants, to which the building is very subject. It ought to have been built of stone, brick, concrete, and iron, but the supports are mainly timber. There are few temptations to residents to endow such a place with gifts, and with the exception of a ghastly looking representation in oils in St. Andrew's Hall of the Duke of Edinburgh, there are no decorations on the walls of the various rooms and halls. Sir Thomas Jackson has now come forward as a donor, and has presented a large portrait of Her Majesty in oils to the building. At present it lies in the packing case, and I have not seen it, so can say nothing more about it. There is hardly any wall space in either St. George's or St. Andrew's Hall, but I suppose a place will be found for it in the former. At any rate that is the most suitable place, unless it is intended for the Chamber of Commerce Room.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Three steamers were stuck on the Taku bar on the morning of the 15th instant, there being only seven feet at high water.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha is said to have bought an ocean steamer of 1,348 tons, which will be employed on the Company's North China route.

The British ship *Engelhorn*, from New York with kerosene, arrived at Yokohama on the 6th inst., and Capt. Lovitt reported that she had suffered very bad weather. During a fearful gale three seamen were washed overboard, and another was killed by falling from the mast. The *Engelhorn* is 162 days out from New York.—*Japan Mail*.

The U.S. cruiser *Charleston*, which has been so unfortunate as to get on to a rock to the north of the Island of Luzon, was placed in commission on May 5th, 1898, Captain Henry Glass, U.S.N., formally assuming command. It was the *Charleston* which took possession of Guam on June 20th of last year, the Spanish Governor-General, five officers, and 54 soldiers being sent on to Manila. The *Charleston* reached Manila on June 30th, 1898, and she has been in these waters since then. She has made two visits to Hongkong for the purpose of "docking" ship—in October, 1898, and last April. Last December Captain Glass left for the United States and was succeeded by Captain Whiting, late of the *Monadnock*.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CANTON, 9th November. Macao Congou.—Settlement for London, during the past month, amount to some 8,000 boxes at Tls. 13 1/2 to 20 per picul, showing a rising market. Latterly, however, Fine Teas have been rather easier, but Common

and Medium continue very firm without increasing the limited supply. The Fourth Crop Teas are very good in quality, being much stronger than usual. Scented Capers.—The month's settlements are reported at 15,000 boxes, making a total to date of 280,000 boxes. Prices must again be quoted higher for all grades, but more especially for Common and Medium. The market is now virtually closed, as far as buying is concerned, only a few old purchases remaining to be shipped. The total Export will now amount to 4 1/2 to 5 mils.

SHANGHAI, 18th November.—(From Messrs Welch, Lewis & Co's Circular):—Our last "printed" Tea market advices were under date 4th instant. It is reported the Captain Wiggins Fleet did not succeed in entering the Kara Sea and that the Brick Tea shipped for Northern Siberia via London has been returned to England. An Import Duty of Roubles 2 1/2 per 36 lbs. has been levied at Nicolaievsk, and some shipments of Tea have come back here in consequence. Black Tea.—Besides the settlements given below some 2,000 half-chests of first crop Teas have been settled at Tls. 22 at 23 a picul, presumably for shipment to Russia. It is not often that Teas of such good quality are offered at this time of the season or that such good value is obtained.

Settlements during the fortnight:—

Ningchow..... 615 1/2-chest, at Tls. 10/21
Oon-n 240 " " 17 1/2

855

Stock, 6450 half-chests, against 3,157 half-chests at same time last year.

Green Tea.—Small quantities, of old seasons Pingsueys have been returned occasionally this autumn from the United States, but no Teas of this season's crop were reported as rejected until this week when some 400 boxes are said to have been "held up" by the Inspectors. Pingsueys.—This market is quiet, without much pressure to sell and prices remain about the same as they were. The figures of settlements and stock do not show the entire supply, as Teas sold by Natives Teamen for shipment to Batoum and Bombay do not appear. The quantities so disposed of are about 18,000 boxes this season, against 20,800 boxes for the same period last season. Countries Teas.—During the early part of the interval under review Teamen were firm holders, and refused many good offers; latterly they have been more willing sellers and in a few cases finest choys have been settled at about a tael a picul under offers once refused. There is a fair demand for teas up to Taels 25 a picul, and prices for these are well maintained. Local packs call for no remark. Hyson.—The demand mentioned in our last respects has continued, but latterly it has been chiefly on speculative account between Chinese, and not for Export. Some 5,000 half-chests have been bought for the purpose of sifting out the Foong Mee, and a few parcels of these Foong Mee have been sold at Tls. 30/32. The Portuguese Government will not admit China Teas into Portugal which have not been stored in London for six months, presumably for fear of plague.

Settlements during the fortnight are:—

	1/2-chests.	at Tls.	a picul
Pingsuey	4,337	21.00 a 28.00	"
Moyune	3,772	21.50 a 28.50	"
Tienkai	8,414	22.00 a 34.00	"
Fychow	459	19.00	"
Local Packed	701	28.25 a 31.00	"

17,683 1/2-chests

Total Settlements since the opening of the season:—

	1899 x 1900.	Stock.
	1/2-chests.	1/2-chests.
Pingsuey	111,960	6,492
Moyune	62,155	
Tienkai	63,261	12,405
Fychow	15,734	
Local packed	18,513	250
Total	271,623	18,747

1899 x 1899.

	Settlements.	Stock.
	1/2-chests.	1/2-chests.
Pingsuey	42,640	18,479
Moyune	67,036	
Tienkai	64,650	20,415
Fychow	14,711	
Local packed	14,675	1,901
Total	207,712	39,795

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1899-1900	1898-99
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	9,544,030	10,608,322
Amoy.....	821,077	585,797
Foochow	14,664,853	12,172,927
Canton	5,171,290	4,229,959

29,761,250 27,197,005

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai.....	1,222,849	1,132,577
Amoy	9,753,984	10,192,254
Foochow	7,652,225	5,995,849

18,622,058 17,820,680

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1899-1900	1898-99
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	25,419,867	22,676,90

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	23,022,245	21,572,422
Kobe.....	12,961,610	12,166,816

35,963,855 33,739,238

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 15th November.—(From Messrs. A. B. Rurkill & Sons' Circular).—The Home markets are very strong. Blue Elephants are quoted at 13/9, and Gold Kilings at 12/11 in London. The Lyons quotation for Gold Kilings is Fcs. 33.50. Raw Silk.—The market is very strong and a large business has been done, and a further advance of 1/10 has to be recorded. Settlements amount to some 1,250 bales, Yellow Silk.—About 350 bales have been settled, and the market close strong. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, November 11th to 17th, are: 1,445 bales White, 493 bales Yellow and 89 bales Wild Silk. Re-reels And Hand Filatures.—A large business has been done again this week, delivery extending in many cases to April. Settlements for America are some 650 bales, of which 200 bales are Mynhenyus. The Continent has taken 100 bales. Steam Filatures.—We do not hear of any business, there are rumours of some offers having been made on a very high basis for fine sizes. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 2,895 bales to America, 2,988 bales to the Continent, 48 bales to London, and 16 bales to various Ports. Wild Silk.—There has been a good demand for Raws at same prices as last week. Filatures are in request for America, and prices show an advance. Waste Silk....Gum Wastes are in strong demand, but there is very little here, business is reported at prices given below. Chinese speculators are willing to pay higher rates.

White Coarse Gum 65 p. c. I, 30 p. c. II, 5 p. c. III...125.
Nankin Buttons 75 p. c. I, 20 p. c. II, 5 p. c. III...125.
Szechuen Coarse Gum 60 p. c. I, 30 p. c. II, 5 p. c. III 65
(whole bales).

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1899-1900	1898-99
bales	bales	bales
Shanghai	53,880	34,326
Canton	18,867	17,297
Yokohama	130,35	9,381

85,762 61,011

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
bales	bales	bales
Shanghai	10,061	8,281
Canton	5,975	6,829
Yokohama.....	15,497	9,198

31,533 18,808

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—A brisk demand has been experienced and prices have greatly advanced. Quotations for Formosa are \$84.50 to \$85.00 sales 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—The market is dull and the decline in prices continues. Quotations are:
Shekloong, No. 1, White...\$8.54 to \$8.57 pcl.
do. " 2, White... 7.75 to 7.80 "

Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.70 to 5.75 pcl.
do. " 2, Brown...	5.55 to 5.60 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	8.40 to 8.45 "
do. " 1, White...	6.65 to 8.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.50 to 5.55 "
do. " 2, Brown...	5.40 to 5.45 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.35 to 12.40 "
Shekloong	11.30 to 11.35 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P & O steamer *Shanghai*, sailed on the 16th November. For Glasgow—300 cases and 50 casks preserves. For London—572 boxes tea (12,012 lbs. congou, 5,767 boxes tea 121,107 lbs. So. caper, 100 boxes tea 2,100 lbs. So. Or. Pekos) 4 cases cigars, 1 case essence of liang liang from Manila, 450 casks ginger, 34 cases woodware, 84 cases Chinaware, 84 rolls mats and matting, 125 bales canes, 57 cases palm leaf fans, 2 cases silks, 2 cases potass and tinfoil paper, 97 bales feathers, 1 case nautical instruments, 100 cases dry ginger, 100 cases preserved ginger, 6 packages curios and furniture, and 9 packages sundries.

Per steamer *Sydney* sailed on the 18th Nov. For Marseilles—325 bales raw silk, 33 cases silks, 14 cases curios, 5 cases woodware, 6 cases effects, 74 cases champagne, 2 cases sundries, and 4 cases feathers. For Zurich—55 bales raw silk. For Lyons—649 bales raw silk. 3.00 Tuesday, 21st, P.M.

Per steamer *Jerome*, sailed on the 20th Nov. For New York—100 bales waste silk, 174 cases Chinaware, 150 bags flour, 238 packages cassia, 100 cases nut oil, 12 bales duck feathers, 48 cases blackwoodware, 50 cases essential oil, 4 cases hair, 8 boxes bristles, and 1,763 packages merchandise.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—Bengal.—The demand has been meagre, but towards the close of the interval was very active. Prices have further given way, latest figures being New Patna \$882 and New Benares \$850.

Malwa.—There was a still further rise in rates and a fair amount of business has been transacted. The following are current rates:—
New \$910 with all'er. of — to 1 catty.
Old \$920 " " — to —
Persian.—Business has been very slack without any change in quotations. Current quotations are \$820 for Only and \$650 to \$820 for Paper-wrapped.

10-day's stocks are estimated as follows:—
New Patna..... 468 chests.
New Benares..... 157 "
Malwa..... 638 "
Persian 1023 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 18	882	—	855	—	910	920
Nov. 19	887	—	850	—	910	920
Nov. 20	887	—	855	—	910	920
Nov. 21	885	—	852	—	910	920
Nov. 22	885	—	852	—	910	920
Nov. 23	885	—	852	—	910	920
Nov. 24	882	—	850	—	910	920

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—No settlements reported, high prices checking demand. Stock, about 650 bales.

Bombay.....	19.00 to 20.00 picul.
Kurrachee	— to — "
Bengal (New). Rangoon, } 19.00 to 23.00 "	
and Dacca	
Shanghai and Japanese, ...	25.00 to 26.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,	25.00 to 26.00 "
Ma raw (Best)	— to — "

Sales: — bales Bengal (Rangoon, new), Dacca.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—The demand from Canton continues and prices are steadily advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.70 to 2.75
" Round, Good quality	3.05 to 3.10
" Long	2.40 to 2.45

Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.14 to 3.17
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.44 to 3.47
" White	3.85 to 3.87
" Fine Cargo.....	4.10 to 4.14

COALS.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—Market in general quiet. Sales 5,000 tons Japanese, private terms. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$21.00 to \$22 ex ship, nominal
Australian.....	11.00 to — ex ship, steady
Milki Lump } 8.50 to 9.50 nominal	
and Small. }	
Moji Lump ...	6.25 to 8.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double }	
screened	12.00 to — ex godown
Hongay Lump	8.50 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust...	5.50 to — "
Briquettes	10.50 to — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—Among the sale reported during the week are the following:

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn:—50 bales No. 8 at \$75, 1,200 bales No. 10 at \$79 to \$91, 300 bales No. 12 at \$77 to \$86, 250 bales No. 16 at \$95 to \$100, 1,150 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$103. Gray Shirtings.—900 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss No. 1 at \$3.40, 1,800 pieces 3 Dog at \$3.47, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red Seal at \$3, 8,000 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss No. 1 at \$3.40, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 13 Dogs at \$3.50, 601 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Green Seal at \$2.82, 1,200 pieces 2 fishes chop at \$3.27, 800 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Seal at \$3.40, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Snake and Elephant at \$3.35. White Shirtings.—500 pieces O at \$4.70, 501 pieces S Q at \$4.82, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6.60, 300 pieces Gold Tiger \$68.0 400 pieces Blue Lion \$6.62, 500 pieces 600 at \$4.85, 250 pieces Gold Elephant \$4.25, 400 pieces Blue Lion \$6.60, 300 pieces Gold Tiger \$6.77, 500 pieces Flower chop \$5.40, 250 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.50, 100 pieces O chop at \$4.70, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6.75, 200 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.57. White Lawn.—2,000 pieces Brown Stag at \$0.72, 2,000 pieces Brown Stag at \$0.77, 1,000 pieces at 12 yards Brown stag at \$0.73. T. Cloths.—150 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.62, 600 pieces 8 lbs. V V at \$3.22, 2,250 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Pheasant at \$2.25, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.62. Drills.—160 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$6.15.

SHANGHAI 18th Nov.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report Piece Goods. The past week has been an exceptionally dull one in every way and the business reported has been almost nil. After the close of last mail there were some apparent orders placed on the market, but the prices offered showed no inducement to holders, who steadily declined to demand in view of the continued firmness in the Home markets. Beyond the auctions there is scarcely anything to report, and there is an almost entire absence of news from the various Outports. The last steamer of the season has left for Newchwang, and from present appearances it would seem that Tientsin is already a closed feature for this year as far as this market is concerned, and shipments hence have recently been much curtailed by the unusual tightness in the local money market. No relief seems to appear from the River and Ningpo markets, which remain in the same lifeless condition as mentioned last week.

Metals 20th November (From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co.'s Report).—In Metals there has been some slight enquiry, but home prices are too high. Nailrods are now quoted at home at 2 1/2s. the "spot" quotation here ruling about Tls. 4.50, as compared with Tls. 8.00 a year ago. Liverpool Horse shoes are quoted 11s. to 11s. 6d. but the highest price secured locally has been 10s. for newly arrived cargo. In consequence where importers were ordering 10,000 piculs a year ago, they now fear to order 2,000. Yet home reports show that producers are fully booked, for months ahead, and everything seems to point to a firm market. The following has been done:—50 tons Liverpool Horse shoes at 10s. spot; 50 tons Cable Wire, at Auction at Tls. 3.25; 100 pieces Iron Plates at 11s. c. i. f. c.; Black Sheet Iron at 21s. 10s.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 24th November.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand.....	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight ..	1 11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ..	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2 1/4

ON PARI.	
Bank Bills on demand	2.47
Credit, at 4 months sight	2.52
ON GERMANY.	
On demand	2.00
ON NEW YORK.	
Bank Bills on demand	17 1/2
Credit, 60 days sight	18 1/2
ON BOMBAY.	
Telegraphic Transfer	145
Bank on demand	145 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.	
Telegraphic Transfer	144 1/2
Bank on demand	145 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.	
Bank, at sight	71 1/2
Private, 30 days sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.	
On demand	44 1/2 pm.
ON MANILA.	
On demand	2 1/2 pm.
ON SINGAPORE.	
On demand	4 1/2 pm.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	
10.18	
GOLD LEAF, 1000 fine per ton	
52.80	

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—The market continues quiet and dull and not much business has been transacted during the week. Rates, however, remain steady to firm.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been negotiated in fair lots at 349 per cent. prem. for cash and settlements and sales are reported at 364 for February; market closes rather quieter with sellers at 349. Nationals have changed hands in small lots at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have found buyers at \$59, Unions at \$242, and Cantons at \$132 1/2. Straits and the Northern Insurances, without local business, continue quiet at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Small sales of Hongkong are reported at \$327 1/2 and of Chinas at \$87.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been in some demand without bringing many shares into the market; small sales have been effected at \$29 1/2 and \$29 1/4, market closing steady. Indos have changed hands at \$81 1/2 and close in some demand at \$82 cash and at equivalent rates forward. Douglasses continue quiet at \$47 with sales. China Mutuals are still enquired for, but none are obtainable at quotations. China Manilas small sales at \$90.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue weak and out of the market. Luzons have changed hands at \$47.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled dull and neglected with small sales at \$9 and \$8.75. Charbonnages have found further buyers at \$300 and more could be placed at that rate. Queens have declined to 40 cents with sellers. Jelebus have continued weak and after sales at \$12, \$11 1/2, \$11, and \$10 1/2, close with sellers at \$10 1/2. Raubs have ruled firmer with sales at \$61, \$62, and \$62 1/2, closing steady at \$62. Great Easterns show some improvement and have found buyers at \$1. Olivers A and B have been negotiated at quotations in small lots.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been placed at \$527 1/2, but close with sellers at that rate. Kowloon Wharves after sales at \$87 and \$86 are weak at the latter rate. Wanchais remain unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been somewhat erratic, shares having changed hands at \$113, \$111, \$112, and later at \$110 1/2. Market closes with buyers at \$110. Hotels with shares offering for cash and forward delivery have ruled quiet with only small sales at \$125 for February; cash rate closes at \$122 sellers. West Points and Humphreys unchanged and without business.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong continues on offer at \$55 without finding buyers. Other quotations are taken from the latest Northern circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China, Borneos, have changed hands at \$104. Green Islands at \$28. Watsons at \$16.25. Dairy Farms at \$5, and China Providents at \$9 1/2. Ropes and Campbell and Moores are enquired for, but none seem obtainable at quotations.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	349 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25.5a.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	28	\$29, buyers
Fonn. Shares	28	\$20, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$14, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9 1/2, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$120, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 65 sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 65
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 72.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375 buyers
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 58
Hongkong	\$100	\$58, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$5, sales & buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$42 1/2 buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$28, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10 1/2, s'lrs ex n. is.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$147 1/2.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$121.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$125.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$38, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$19 1/2, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$525 p. ct. p em. =
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$182 1/2.
China Fire	\$20	\$87, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$59, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$327 1/2, sales & n. is.
North-China	\$25	Tls. 19.
Straits	\$20	\$2, sellers
Union	\$50	\$24 1/2, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$110, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9 1/2, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$30, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$47, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$300, sales & buys.
Gr. Estn. & C'donian	\$5	\$1, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	50 cts., sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$10 1/2, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	40 cts., sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$9, sellers
Do. B.	\$4 1/2	\$6.60, buyers
Punjom	\$6	\$3.75 sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.40, sellers
Raubs	15s. 10d	\$62, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$19, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$90, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$29 1/2, buyers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$28, buyers
Do.	\$5	\$4.10, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$29 1/2, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$32, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$100	\$2 0
Star Ferry	\$7 1/2	\$21 1/2.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37 1/2	\$45, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$16.25, sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 20th November.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—A fair amount of business was done this week. Langkat shares again receiving much attention. The Shanghai Steam Laundry Co. has been floated, the shares having been applied for in excess. An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders in the Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co. has been called for the 30th November, to pass a resolution to create 2,000 new shares of Tls. 100 each, to be issued to the shareholders at par in the proportion of one new to every four old shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Business has been confined to a sale at 332 per cent. premium. Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been sold at Tls. 59 cash, Tls. 59 1/2 for November Tls. 60 for December, and Tls. 62 1/2 for March. Mining.—Sheridans are offering at Tls. 4. Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were placed for 15th December at \$62. Dock, Wharves and Godowns.—S.C. Farham & Co. shares were placed at Tls. 220 cash and Tls. 230 for March. Shanghai Engineering shares were sold, Preference at Tls. 108 1/2.

and Ordinary at Tls. 100. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were sold at Tls. 242 1/2/250 cash, Tls. 250 for November, Tls. 245/250 for December, and Tls. 252 1/2 for March. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 84. Hongkong Land Investment shares were sold at \$110 to Hongkong, and locally at \$107 1/2. Industrial. Business was done in Shanghai Gas shares at Tls. 27 1/2. International Cotton Mill shares at Tls. 64 cash, and Tls. 68/65 for December. Laou-Kung-Mow Cotton Mill shares at Tls. 72. Shanghai Ice new shares at Tls. 26, and China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 32 1/2. Ewo Cotton Mill shares are offering at Tls. 68, and Soy Cane shares at Tls. 400. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 60/59. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares have been done to a large extent at varying rates. Sales were made for cash at Tls. 285/290, for November at Tls. 287 1/2 for December at Tls. 305, and for March at Tls. 320. The news of a proposed issue of 2,000 new shares, caused a decline in the market, and business was done for cash at Tls. 275, and advancing gradually to Tls. 300, at Tls. 280 to 290 for December and Tls. 310/315 for March. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares are offering at Tls. 81. Hall and Holtz shares were sold at \$36 1/2, and Central Stores at \$11 1/2. Loans.—Chinese Imperial E Loan Bonds were sold at Tls. 252 1/2. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 10 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 105, and Shanghai-Langkai Debentures at Tls. 101.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 24th November.—There has been a good demand for tonnage during the past fortnight, and rates remain firm. Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul is offered for prompt medium sized carriers; to Philippines 35 cents per picul. From Java to this, 50 cents per picul is offered. Japan coal freights.—From Moji to Singapore, \$3.60 per ton; to Hongkong, \$3. Bangkok to Hongkong, steamers are wanted at 26 cents and 31 cents per picul. Sailing vessels.—Hence to New York, no further enquiry. A vessel has been closed from 3 ports Celebes to Hongkong, at £1,200.

There is one vessel disengaged in port registering 1,424 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

West York—British bark, 7.6 tons, three ports north coast Celebes to Hongkong, £1,200 in full.

Trios—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Taichong—German steamer, 989 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 1/2 cents per picul.

Tedatos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 1/2 cents per picul.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Saigon to Cebu, 38 cents per picul.

Tyr—Norwegian steamer, 1,417 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3 per ton.

Hinsang—British steamer, 1,536 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3 per ton.

Daphne—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2.00 per ton.

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 45 cents per picul; Kuchinotzu to Manila, \$4.25 per ton.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Malacca (str.), Idomeneus (str.), Japan (str.), Machaon (str.).

For BREMEN.—Koenig Albert (str.).

For MARSEILLE.—Sanuki Maru (str.), Annam (str.), Sileria (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Bamberg (str.), Sarnia (str.), Konigsberg Ambria (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—China (str.), Hongkong Maru (str.), Gaelic (str.).

For SAN DIEGO VIA SHANGHAI.—Lady Joicey (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).

For VICTORIA, B.C., VIA SHANGHAI.—City of London (str.).

For PORTLAND, O.—Monmouthshire (str.).

For NEW YORK.—Catania (str.), Afghanistan (str.), Mary L. Cushing (str.), Adolph Obrig (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—Kasuga Maru (str.), Ohingtu (str.), Changsha (str.).

For SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY.—Arama (str.), Bessie (str.).

For BOMBAY V. SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Mills Maru (str.).

For PHILADELPHIA AND N. Y. YORK.—St. Mark.

For BALTIMORE AND NEW YORK.—Rosa.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

November—ARRIVALS.

17, Phra C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
 17, Wongkoi, British str., from Bangkok.
 18, Guthrie, British str., from Kobe.
 18, Progress, German str., from Newchwang.
 18, St. Jerome, British str., from Shanghai.
 18, Nanchang, British str., from Newchwang.
 18, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 18, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 18, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 18, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
 19, Charterhouse, British str., from S'pore.
 19, Deuteros, German str., from Saigon.
 19, Fooksang, British str., from Wuhu.
 19, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 19, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 19, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 19, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 19, Ningpo, British str., from Wuhu.
 19, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.
 19, Whampoa, British str., from Wuhu.
 19, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 19, Szechuen, British str., from Canton.
 19, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 19, Catania, British str., from New York.
 20, Propontis, British str., from Saigon.
 20, Moyune, British str., from Amoy.
 20, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
 20, Glenshiel, British str., from Foochow.
 20, Pakshan, British str., from Bangkok.
 20, Progress, Russian str., from Newchwang.
 20, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 20, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
 20, Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok.
 20, Sabine Rickmers, British str., from Amoy.
 21, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 21, Diamante, British str., from Shanghai.
 21, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
 21, Stromboli, Italian cruiser, from Shanghai.
 21, Oceanien, French str., from Marseilles.
 21, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 21, Progress, German str., from Canton.
 21, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotsu.
 21, Iris, U.S. distilling ship, from Manila.
 21, Hinsang, British str., from Java.
 22, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 22, Taifu, German str., from Canton.
 22, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 22, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.
 22, Barfleur, British battleship, from Amoy.
 22, City of London, British str., from Bombay.
 22, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 22, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 22, Swatow, German str., from Swatow.
 22, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 22, Futami Maru, Jap. str., from Manila.
 23, Iphigenia, British cruiser, from Shanghai.
 23, Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Tategami Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 23, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 23, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
 23, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 23, Khalif, British str., from Batoum.
 24, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 24, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 24, Prosper, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
 24, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 24, Shansi, British str., from Tientsin.
 24, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 24, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
 24, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from S'pore.
 24, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.

November—DEPARTURES.

18, Piemonte, Italian cr., for Singapore.
 18, Sydney, French str., for Europe.
 18, Hoihow, French str., for Hoihow.
 18, Progress, German str., for Canton.
 18, Taifu, German str., for Canton.
 18, Catherine Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
 18, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 18, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 19, Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.
 19, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 19, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
 19, Sueria, German str., for Hamburg.
 19, Sibiria, German str., for Hamburg.
 19, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 19, Kong Beng, British str., for Haiphong.
 19, Tamsui Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 19, Cullgo, U.S. transport, for New York.
 20, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
 20, Nankin, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.

20, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Progress, Russian str., for Canton.
 20, Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.
 20, Bellerophon, British str., for Amoy.
 20, Benlarig, British str., for Yokohama.
 20, St. Jerome, British str., for New York.
 20, Changsha, British str., for Australia.
 20, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 20, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 20, Ningpo, British str., for Canton.
 21, Catania, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.
 21, Moyune, British str., for New York.
 21, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
 21, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 21, Idsumi Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 21, Guthrie, British str., for Sydney.
 21, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 21, Benlomond, British str., for Nagasaki.
 21, Oceanien, French str., for Shanghai.
 22, Empress of India, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 22, Hermione, H.M. cruiser, for Singapore.
 22, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 22, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
 22, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 22, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 22, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for K'notsu.
 22, Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.
 22, Amara, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Pascal, French cr., for Kwangchow.
 23, Progress, German str., for Tournon.
 23, Algoa, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 23, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
 23, Glenshiel, British str., for London.
 23, Kosa Maru, Jap. str., for Vladivostok.
 23, Taifu, German str., for Swatow.
 23, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 23, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 23, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
 23, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 24, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 24, St. James, Amr. ship, for New York.
 24, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
 24, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 24, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Sydney.
 24, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, Mrs. F. Thornton, Messrs. Inman, Wright, and Arnold.
 Per *Chingtu*, from Sydney, &c, Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Stanford, Sir Rupert Clarke (Baronet) Messrs. E. D. Clarke, E. Austin, G. Hooper, and P. Morgan.
 Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Mrs. Morrison, Messrs. Latz, Shuetly, E. Wolf, and Brandy.
 Per *Oceanien*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mrs. Le Roux and 2 children, Messrs. C. Maligay, Dras, and Chaptel; from Colombo, Lieut. G. Hendley, Mrs. Batowitta, and Mr. Etzkowitch; from Singapore, Messrs. Mansdale and P. Donald; from Saigon, Messrs. J. Chapin, Mitsui, Nicolareff, Mr. and Mrs. Tournaese; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. Otto Orsent, Mrs. Astier, Messrs. Nusberger, Magnin, Mr. and Mrs. Faga, Mr. J. Robert, Revs. Fleury, Georges, Conrad, Jerome, Ceside, Etienne, Louis, and Bonaventure, Sister Aimee de Jesus, and Mrs. Pons; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Dr. Benneche, Mrs. Dubois Favre; from Singapore, Mr. Dubois Favre; from Saigon, Mr. Schleret; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Lieut. Bartochewich; from Port Said, Mr. Poudavoff; from Saigon, Mrs. Omessan.
 Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama, for Colombo, Surgeon Genl. and Mrs. McVittie; for Hongkong, Messrs. F. Kingwell and W. McLeod; from Kobe, for London, Messrs. T. Sasaki and K. Nishino; for Hongkong, Misses K. D. Hamilton and A. G. Twining; from Nagasaki, for Hongkong, Mr. Mallory.
 Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Consul H. Baehr, Messrs. Weber, J. Nomura, Gaberetta, and Takano; through passengers, Messrs. H. Schaub and Geo. Moore, Dr. J. Hepburn, Comdr. C. Cornwell, Messrs. F. Armstrong, H. L. Blanthorne, and K. Nonaka, Mr. and Mrs. Barrand, Mrs. Hudson and 2 children, Mr. Watanabe, and Miss Gaberetta.
 Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c, Mrs. Henry Swift, Mrs. H. T. Sime, Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Johnston, Miss Fannie Wand, Miss E. C. Bond, Mrs. B. A. Carrington and 2 children, Comdr. Thos. C. McLean, Comdr. J. V. B.

Bleeker, Mr. David McKennie, Mrs. Chas. H. Phelps, Misses L. Booth, G. J. MacLagen, J. Balmer, Mrs. C. W. Mead, Mrs. V. Evans and child, Miss Annie Day, Mrs. A. L. Conger, Mrs. C. L. Stone, Mrs. E. Stone, Mr. Ralph Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fuchs and 2 children, Mrs. F. J. Dunleavy and child, Mr. H. Sampson, Mrs. R. A. Wellman, Miss A. K. Wellman, Miss E. R. Wellman, Mr. Chas. N. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Grosvenor, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Kilworth, Dr. C. Gerlach, Messrs. A. S. Goodwin, E. Cassey, C. F. Davis, Mrs. H. Schow, Miss z. Baber, Miss B. Baber, Dr. Stahl, Mr. C. B. Rusby, Baron Bodenhausen, Mr. and Mrs. S. Clarke, Mr. J. J. Lieria, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Goodrich, Mrs. J. Raymond, Mrs. A. Clark, Mr. J. M. L. Brown, Miss M. Worley, Miss J. Alexander, and Mr. D. Poletti.

Per *Hongkong*, from Haiphong, &c, Mr. Nicolle.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, Messrs. Steward, Duncan and Lynch.

Per *Futami Maru*, from Manila, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. J. Whear Robert, Miss W. Whear Robert, Mr. Corney, Consul and Mrs. K. Nakayama, Mr. and Mrs. M. de Ocampo and Miss Dels Reges, Messrs. V. De Ocampo, P. L. Sherman, D. M. Cormen, P. D. Cormen, J. Anderson, L. Gorham, and R. Misaka; for Kobe, Mr. Kate Macara; for Yokohama, Captain H. Hilcoat, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Corrie, Miss O. Reilly, Messrs. A. J. Agnew, Munro, W. P. Treveskins, Gobaratta, and Mrs. L. Gorham.

Per *Bengal*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Madame May, Miss Feava, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Balch, Mr. M. M. Mehta, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie and family, Messrs. J. G. Chapman, R. E. Forrest, J. B. Hall, Lieut. R. Norton, Miss N. Millet, Messrs. A. R. Lowe, P. D. Mehta, R. E. Cruttsfield, Revs. J. E. Jorde, F. J. Lohand, F. M. Ruiz; for Singapore, Mr. H. C. Gulland; for Bombay, Messrs. Gorgman Rai and Mohamed Latif; for Marseilles, Bishop and Miss Granston, Miss Crook, Rev. C. F. Kupfer; for London, Misses A. and M. Baller, Mrs. Pearce, Miss and Master Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Mr. H. J. Mason, Miss Souze, Miss F. Backentoss.

DEPARTED.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for Colombo, Mr. R. de Albertis, Miss A. de Albertis; for Port Said, Messrs. Fuchewicz and Emelianoff; for London, Lieut. K. Kobayashi, Chief Surgeon K. Yokichi, Chief Paymaster T. Yoshida, I.J.N., Mrs. Poutter, Master Wm. Waddel, Master Geo. Waddel; for Marseilles, Chief Paymaster S. Kubota, I.J.N., Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gubbins and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. E. Freyre, Mr. and Mrs. Paya and child, Mr. H. Okumura, Gun Officer Room S. Nagashima, Gun Officer Room L. Watanabe, and Mr. D. Steward.

Per *Sydney*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Rev. l'Abbe Boivin; for Singapore, Messrs. P. Nalin and Magdon Ismail, Mrs. F. Zamlche, General Comte Reventlon, Baron Korff, Dr. Pfeuger, Messrs. Hanbilsobor, Beckmann, Mayer, Gerlach, Hon. J. S. Fassett and family, Mr. Carter, Miss Carter, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Primley and child, Miss L. Steiner, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Shaw, and Mr. Chye Hupp; for Suez, Messrs. W. B. Jones and Kingmann, and Mrs. Croxson; for Marseilles, Messrs. Reichardt, Rader, Schwenger, F. C. Bergene, F. de Lauchaux Daignan, L. L. Drare, M. A. Lorin, E. P. Rion, Rev. l'Abbe F. Guiliano, Miss Lee, and Mr. J. A. Pereira Torres.

Per *Oceanien*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Messrs. J. J. Bowman, Barth, H. W. Andrews, Vogt, T. Alderton, W. Robertson, D. MacDonnell, Cardona, F. Reiber, Mrs. Martyn, Mrs. M. Cameron Remedios and child; for Kobe, Mr. M. S. Kelly.

Per *Empress of India*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. Allanson and infant, Miss Helen Luther, Mr. W. P. Bently, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Richardson and infant, Messrs. George C. Fullerton and P. D. Donald; for Kobe, Messrs. Abdulkader and Abdulhosein; for Yokohama, Mrs. M. Stanford, and Mr. J. F. N. Jartlett; for San Francisco, Messrs. George E. Wolfe and J. McCauley; for Minneapolis, U.S.A., Mrs. J. McCauley; for Montreal, Messrs. H. N. F. Austin and C. Bradford.